



Hillside Monthly Dispatch

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

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Modeling the Truth of God's Word

May 2019

Display the Fruit of the Spirit

From the Pastor's Desk

Displaying the Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23



What is your favorite kind of fruit? Is it watermelon? How about kiwi? How about possibly passion fruit? I know, I bet it's guava right? Well my favorite kind of fruit is berries; probably strawberry is at the top.

Here in New Hampshire we are just under two months away from seeing our first signs of berries in the area. In front of the house, roughly halfway between the parsonage and church along the rock wall we have a black raspberry bush that produces far more berries than we can ever eat in a given season. Because it is so plentiful that we see various birds and furry creatures come through our yard wanting to eat from the fallen fruit on the ground.

You know what's interesting though is that every year it always produces black raspberries, not blueberries, not strawberries, not even boysenberries; nope nothing but black raspberries year after year. Here is why: God designed plants to produce after their own kind, thus an apple tree produces only apples, while a pear tree produces only pears. You are not going to go out to your grape vine this year and see tomatoes growing on it any more than if you went to a watermelon patch to discover it produced zucchini. Nope, what the seed God designed to produce is the fruit He intended it be.

There is a very familiar passage in Scripture that talks about a particular kind of fruit, and it is found in Galatians 5:22-23, which is known as the fruit of the Spirit. Paul writes in the passage "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." Notice how Paul talks about "fruit," not "fruits."

The fruit that the Holy Spirit produces in us is the very character of God Himself, thus it isn't various kinds of different fruit, but various aspects of one fruit. Take for instance a banana when ripe has a stem that is brown, a

Upcoming Events and Meetings

May 2 – National Day of Prayer

May 4, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

The men share a meal, then engage in a Bible discussion.

May 5, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

May 27 - Memorial Day

Weekly:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Discussion

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. – Worship Service

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. – Weekly Bible Study Series

coating of skin that is yellow, an interior texture that is semi-stiff and at the same time mushy. It has a particularly pleasing fragrance or smell and a color that is plain which enables it to be used in many recipes. So too with the nature of our God, for He is love, kind, patient, gentle, faithful, self-disciplined, and good. Not different fruit, but various aspects of one fruit.

So when we come to know Christ as our Savior and Lord, the Holy Spirit plants the seed of God within us, which in turn produces this very fruit in our lives. As an apple tree can only produce apples and all its characteristics, we too are a spirit tree that produces all the characteristics of that fruit.

So if you were to pluck us off the Spirit tree we might have the appearance of peace, the feel of gentleness, the exterior color of kindness, the texture of goodness, the interior firmness of faithfulness, the inner color of self-control, the aroma of patience, the juiciness of joy, and the seeds of love; and yet we are still displaying that one fruit of the Spirit with all its facets and brilliance.

Sometimes, however, the fruit that is most pleasing is the fruit that has persevered and weathered life's climate battles

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On the web at <http://www.hillside-sbc.org>

Pastor's Desk (from p. 1)

to produce the best and sweetest taste. So too with us as Christians. For when we run to God in our struggles, lean on Him in our trials, and persevere in His strength, then the fruit we bear is the sweetest fruit that our God enjoys the most.

The fruit of the Spirit is a gift of God from the onset of your faith in Christ, but you must cultivate it, care for it, preserve it, and display it if it is to have any true impact or effect on others in your witness.

So let me encourage you to strive to display the Fruit of the Spirit and then you will know what it is to have the very Character of God living through you, that very character that will win others to Christ.

God Bless,
✠ Pastor Jim

Men's Breakfast

We will start off the Merry Month of May with a Merry Men's Breakfast on May 4th at 8:00 a.m. Let Pastor Jim know if you plan to bring a dish to share. There is variety from month to month but the food is always tasty and filling.

After the breakfast, we will continue exploring the Gospel of Mark. Some good discussions ensue and we do our best to cover all or most of one chapter.

Try it, you'll like it.

Property and Space Patrol

It hasn't snowed for a while so the grass is getting green and the black flies are out and about.

Soon mowing season will start.

✠ Pastor Al

Beyond the Stars

The following article comes from the Sept. 4th, 2018 *Our Daily Bread* devotional booklet. The writer was Xochitl Dixon. The focal passage was Psalm 8:1-9.

In 2011, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration celebrated thirty years of space research. In those three decades, shuttles carried more than 355 people into space and helped construct the International Space Station. After retiring five shuttles, NASA has now shifted its focus to deep-space exploration.

The human race has invested massive amounts of time and money, with some astronauts even sacrificing their lives, to study the immensity of the universe. Yet the evidence of God's majesty stretches far beyond what we can measure.

When we consider the Sculptor and Sustainer of the universe who knows each star by name (Isaiah 40:26), we can understand why the psalmist David praises His greatness (Psalm 8:1). The Lord's fingerprints are on "the moon and the stars, which [He] set in place" (v. 3).

The Maker of the heavens and the earth reigns above all, yet He remains near all His beloved children, caring for each

intimately and personally (v. 4). In love, God gives us great power, responsibility, and the privilege to care for and explore the world He's entrusted to us (vv. 5-8).

As we study our star-spattered night skies, our Creator invites us to seek Him with passion and persistence. He hears every prayer and song of praise flowing from our lips.

**Memorial Day****Arlington National Cemetery**

On the last Monday in May, May 27th, citizens of the United States commemorate Memorial Day, which is a federal holiday. This day honors the memory of the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

It began in 1868 as a proclamation by General John Logan. Its purpose was to remember the soldiers who died in the Civil War. It was also supposed to be a step towards national reconciliation between the North and the South. Its original name was Decoration Day because people put flowers on the graves of the soldiers.

By 1890, the holiday was celebrated in all the states of the North. After World War I, the holiday was altered to go beyond honoring soldiers who died in the Civil War, and include the memory of American service personnel who died while serving in the Armed Forces.

On this Memorial Day, let us honor those who died while serving our country so that we may live as free people in this great American Republic.

Tune in to Gospel Radio

In the Concord area, get more of God's Word by tuning into New Hampshire Gospel Radio at 99.1 FM or 104.3 FM. For example, on Saturday nights at 6 p.m. the locally produced "Saturday Night Gospel Hour" offers a wide variety of southern and country gospel music.

During the week, tune into well known speakers such as Alistair Begg, Chuck Swindoll, Dr. David Jeremiah, and Dr. Jim Daly.

Learn more at <http://www.nhgr.org/>.

USCIRF commends U.S., seeks more on religious liberty

WASHINGTON (BP) -- The Trump administration again demonstrated a commitment to global religious liberty in 2018, but the United States and other countries must do more to hold severe violators accountable, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) said in its 2019 report.

The report, issued April 29, provides an international overview and individual reports and recommendations on 28 countries regarding the state of religious liberty last year from USCIRF, an independent, bipartisan panel. The document included recommendations to the State Department for designations of the world's most severe violators of religious freedom.

For the complete article, see the Baptist Press web site:

<http://www.bpnews.net/52853/uscirf-commends-us-seeks-more-on-religious-liberty>

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Hillside wishes a happy, happy, happy birthday to the following people who are celebrating another orbit around the Sun:

5/22 Rachel Page

5/26 Michael Frascinella



Hillside also wishes God's blessing on anyone who celebrates a wedding anniversary this month. If that's you, please let the editor know so he can add you to the anniversary list.

Prayer Requests

If you need us to pray for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need, contact Pastor Jim, Pastor Al, or Michael Frascinella and they will get the word out to the membership. It is our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hillside on the Web

Go to the Hillside web site <http://www.hillside-sbc.org/> for more information about our fellowship, including this newsletter in PDF format.

Submissions for Next Issue

Deadline is May 25. Send news items to News Wrangler and Editor, 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.



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