



Hillside Monthly Dispatch

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 23 No. 3

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

March 2024

Be Righteous Followers of Jesus

From the Pastor's Desk

Encouragement in Unsuspecting Places

I remember several years ago driving in Manchester on Elm Street when an old pick-up truck got my attention. Now, when I say old it is from the perspective of one who is just over fifty years of age. With that being said, it was definitely a Chevy truck that was probably from the mid-1980s.

What was surprising was the fact that it was in phenomenal condition. There did not appear to be a spot of rust on the entire vehicle and the original paint job from the factory was in pristine condition as well. Either that truck had not experienced any of our New England winters by hiding out in a garage, or it was from somewhere in the south where there is no snow or salt, for the truck was nearly perfect.

As I checked the truck out I had noticed the vanity plate, you know those plates that generally make you try and figure out what they're saying. For instance I saw one once that said SK8R, which meant "skater," probably one who liked to play hockey or ice skate. Another one was STRKR? I knew the owner and so I verified that it meant "Striker" and he confirmed that it did. It could have been sports related and thus referred to someone who liked to bowl and get a bunch of strikes, or a pitcher in baseball who liked to strike out people, or even a rugby player who plays that position on the field. However, because I knew the owner I knew it wasn't any of those, but instead it was a character he developed for a video game.

Another good one was OUWISH, which is easy enough to understand, yet still brings a smile to one's face. Most of the time vanity plates have

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Mar. 3, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

March 10, 2 a.m. – Daylight Saving time starts

Turn those clocks ahead one hour.

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day

March 24 – Palm Sunday

March 31 – Resurrection Sunday

Weekly:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

New study series: Genesis chapters 20-50

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

Continuing the Sermon Series on The Book of Ephesians

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. – Weekly Bible Study

Starting March 6; resuming study of the book of Revelation

a personal message or meaning for the onlooker to try and figure out. Much like the one I saw at Hannaford's super market a few months ago that simply read BRATT. Which I took a picture of and sent to my sister Karen and told her I was thinking about her.

Well, back to the license plate on the truck which stated 2COR517. This one was not hard since

See Pastor's Desk on p. 2

In This Issue: Pastor's Message | Upcoming Events | Fellowship Events | Property & Space Patrol | Easter Season | Book Review | Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Pastor’s Desk (from p. 1)

it clearly stands for 2 Corinthians 5:17. I found it encouraging coming across one who loved the word of God enough to share it in that way. I wish I could say that I had the brain capacity and photographic memory to instantaneously recall what the verse says, but I don’t, thus I told myself to look it up when I got home.

Well, like many of us who get busy with life I forgot to look it up when I got home. However I remembered to read it the following morning and the passage says, “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come” (NASB). That verse truly is encouraging isn’t it? We who are saved in Jesus Christ are no longer what we once were, for we have been changed; changed to do righteous works, to act holy before a holy God, and to live a life for our Savior. The old has truly passed away and because it has new things have come into our lives.

I found this simple license plate to be an encouragement in an unsuspecting place for it was out there in the world for all to see. That should encourage all of us to do the same: to have those plates or bumper stickers or both on our cars professing our faith. It should encourage us to wear those t-shirts that profess Christ as the way, the truth, and the life. We should be inspired to speak to others with grace, love, and care that is an outpouring of the fruit of the Spirit that lives in us. And it should spurn us on to conduct ourselves as righteous followers of Jesus in our workplace, home, and community.

When we express ourselves in these various ways, we will not only grow in our faith in Christ, but also provide that much needed encouragement to others in unsuspecting place too, for they will find it in you.

Blessings,
✠ Pastor Jim

Fellowship Events

With St. Patrick’s Day coming on Sunday March 17th, it’s time for everyone to be Irish for a day. Come dressed in green and put on your shamrock pin or earrings. Be prepared to say “Top o’ the mornin’ to ye!” or “Begosh and begorrah!”

Offer this Irish prayer:

“May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm on your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.”



Property and Space Patrol

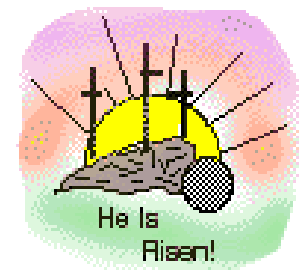
The following tasks were completed during the past month.

- Plowed the parking lot and shoveled walkways as needed.
- Replaced the oil fill pipe and cap on the parsonage oil tank because an outside fitting was leaking.
- NH Timber Harvesters will begin harvesting lumber from the wood lot behind the parsonage on the first full week of March. They plan to take 4-6 weeks for the project.

✠ Pastor Jim

Easter Season is Early This Year

Due to whatever weird formula was developed over the centuries, the date for Resurrection Sunday (aka Easter) varies from year to year being sometimes in March, sometimes in April. It seems that March 21st, the Full Moon, and Sunday all figure into the calculation.



When you consider that Christmas Day, New Year’s Day, Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, and the 4th of July always fall on the same month and date every year, why is it so hard to decide on a Sunday in April for Easter?

Here are the dates for this year.

Palm Sunday – March 24

Resurrection Sunday – March 31

Book Review: Studies in the Sermon on the Mount

On the back cover, Bible School founder J.F. Knapp urged us to “Read these pages again and again until the truth soaks through to your innermost consciousness.”

Author Oswald Chambers (1874-1917) is best known for the classic devotional “My Utmost for His Highest.” This “Studies” book, 142-pages long, focuses on God’s character and the believer’s conduct as found in Matthew chapters 5-7. It is filled with gems of wisdom like the following:

Chapter 2: On integrity he wrote: “Jesus taught by example and by precept that no one should stand up for his or her own honor but for the honor of another.”

“Leave scandal alone; never touch it.”

“Suspicion is always of the Devil, and it is the cause of people saying more than they need to say.”

Chapter 3: “Have no other motive in giving than to please God.”

“Develop the habit of having such a relationship to God that you do good without knowing it.”

“Refuse to be swamped by the cares of this world, cut out nonessentials and continually revise your relationship to God, and see that you are concentrated absolutely on Him.”

Dozens more gems could be presented but these few give you a sense of the spiritual depth and breadth of Chambers’ writing.

The book is available from Discovery House, an affiliate of Our Daily Bread Ministries.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



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

3/30 Amanda Robertson



Hillside also wishes God’s blessing on the following people who celebrate a wedding anniversary this month:

3/4 Tom & June Cairns

Local Carpenter Continues To Spread Disinformation Deemed Harmful By Religious Experts



Sent by Tom Cairns

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 Mar. 25. Send news items to News Wrangler and Editor, Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella at comcast dot net.



Hillside Baptist Church is a member of the Baptist Churches of New England, part of the Southern Baptist Convention.



Hillside Baptist Church
547 Pembroke St.
Pembroke, NH 03275

Modeling the truth of God's Word

