

**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF GOFFSTOWN**

8 & 10 Main Street

Goffstown, N.H. 03045

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PASSAGES SEPTEMBER 2009

FROM THE PASTOR

Who Is the Church?

That may seem like an odd sounding question. Usually the question is asked this way, "What Is the Church?" And then one might respond, well, the church is the body of Christ or the church is people; or the church is the bride of Christ, the church is a hospital for sick sinners or a filling station where you can get your spiritual battery recharged, your tank refilled, etc.

The apostle Peter gives us another image that I find really meaningful. He addresses his first epistle to "The Pilgrims of the Dispersion" – that is, in other words, to "The Church Scattered" or "The Church Dispersed" – take your pick. I find that idea very interesting and helpful because it reminds us that the community we call Christ's church is not just a fixed church building on a corner somewhere, but a community that is scattered throughout the entire world, as the church already was scattered in Peter's day towards the end of the first century. Or even here in the larger Goffstown-Weare-Manchester community, for example, where we see in our own church, searching people scattered around meeting in small groups, homes, wherever, coming together as the early church did according to Acts 2:42, as they "continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine [teaching] and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."

"Calling the church the body of Christ reminds her that she is an *incarnational* community," Darrow L. Miller writes. "Just as in Christ 'the Word became flesh and dwelt among us' (John 1:14), so now the word is to be incarnate today through the body of Christ. Another way of saying it is that the church is to be a kingdom people or a kingdom community. As we have come to Christ, we have entered the kingdom. We are to live as kingdom people in the midst of our own communities."

If you are not in a small group I encourage you to get involved as we start back up again in September in our Living in Authentic Community groups. There among the scattered – in the Word-becoming-flesh you too may find that the genuine church is not an it, a what, a thing, but a "who"!

PRAY:

- that God will strengthen the congregated church in her roles of worship, care, growth, and sending, nurturing fellowships that build themselves up in love and reach out to others
- that the Holy Spirit will enliven the body of Christ, inspiring Christians around the world to be the "church scattered" and live out the life of Christ in their families, jobs, and communities
- that people from every nation, tongue, and tribe will come to know Christ through the faithful life witness of the Christians scattered among them that God's kingdom will come and that His Will will be done on earth as it is in heaven

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

- Ephesians 3:20-21

The Lord Bless You and Keep You.

Pastor Charlie

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Hi Everyone!

All Annual reports are due in the office. Please submit them by e-mail as .doc attachments or they can be left in my mailbox in the Parish House by September 4th. **The Annual Meeting is schedule for September 27 at 11:30am.** If all reports are received on time, the finished report will be available in the office, on the church website and in the Sanctuary starting September 18th.

Passages is no longer being mailed to members and friends with e-mail addresses. Hard copies will be available the first day of each month in the church and the office. The newsletter, updated monthly calendars and weekly bulletins can be read on line at: <http://goffcong.org>.

In order to receive e-mail notices, please make sure you update the office as soon as possible if a change occurs.

All articles for the October issue must be in the office by September 24th. We will be folding the newspaper on Wednesday September 30th at 9:00am in the Chapel of the Parish house. If you would like to help out, please join us at that time. News articles are always welcome at any time of the month. They can be left in the Secretary's mail box in the Parish house or e-mailed to:

office_goffcong@myfairpoint.net.

Pictures can be left in the mailbox to be scanned. Please include a label, a short sentence or two about the picture or the names of the people in the photo. They will be returned after they are scanned. They can also be sent as .jpeg files to the office e-mail address.

Thank you,-

Barbara Pinard, Editor/ Church Administrative Assistant

Annual Meeting

Sunday, September. 27, 2009 following worship. Please save this date on your calendar. There will be a potluck lunch in Stark Hall after worship, followed by our annual business meeting. **ALL members should plan to attend.** Annual reports will be available in the church office starting September 18th.

Sunday Worship services will be held at 10:00am starting September 13th.

Women's Retreat

September 18-20 at Alton Bay Christian Conference Center.

Speaker is Rudy Wilson Galdonik When God says "go take a hike". Stepping out in Faith

\$130 includes lodging \$95 without lodging (Ginny Beaudoin has beds available at her cottage).

Registration forms available in the Vestry.

If anyone would like to purchase the organ from the Chapel call Ginny Beaudoin 497-8283.

Time to re-start "Authentic Community" small groups. Beginning the week of September 13 and concluding two weeks before Thanksgiving. Watch your bulletins for further information.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

HASKELL, Sue	09/04	SMITH, Danielle	09/13
BROOKS, Sarah	09/06	BARNARD, Gordon	09/17
SHAWCROSS, Sandy	09/06	CARR, Charles	09/22
THAYER, Mildred	09/07	LASHWAY, Brenda	09/23
LANGENBERGER, Lisa	09/08	HASKELL, Donald	09/26
SARGENT, Kathy	09/08	WILSIE, Brendan	09/26
SALLESE, Karen	09/10	BASTIAN, Jakob	09/27
ELLIS, Lisa	09/11		

DIACONATE DIALOGUE

As we enter our new church year, we again as a community of Christ continue to be called to do many things. Being a Christian brings the ultimate reward but asks us to be involved with our Christian brothers and sisters. Sometimes as typical New Englanders we find this hard to accomplish. We often want to do things alone or not want others to get into our business. However God wants to change our lives. He wants us to love our neighbors. To help us in the process of practicing biblical love, we have turned for help from additional readings.

Over the months last year, we read and discussed Jim Van Yperen's book Living in Authentic Community. We read chapters on attitudes and commitment in the community. We gathered collectively in small groups to discuss these topics. Once again this fall we will gather weekly to share the final eight lessons. We ask that you return to a group, which will be announced shortly. If you have not gone, please find the time, as we know this will be a spiritually rewarding period. Don't have a book, see our Pastor.

The Apostle Paul says in Romans 12:5, "In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."

From the Board of Deacons, we look forward to seeing YOU as a part of our groups.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Thank you to laymen Jim Beltz, Terry Paul, and Jim Conley who filled in for Pastor Charlie during his vacation. All three did a great job laying a foundation of teaching about Biblical Eldership. If you missed any of the three, their sermons are accessible via our church website at <http://goffcong.org>:

June 28 – Jim Beltz "An Eldership Primer"

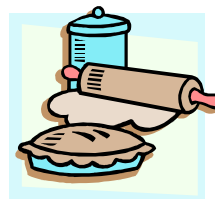
July 12 – Terry Paul "The Call"

July 19 – Jim Conley "Servant Leadership"

Shaws and Hannaford gift cards continue to be available. By purchasing a \$25 or \$50 card through our church, our church receives 5% of the cost—a win/win situation for all! Call Ann Beltz at 497-3118 for more information on how to get involved.

Senior Supper: Our church will be hosting the Goffstown Senior Supper on Wednesday, September 23 at 5:00pm. **Help will be needed** in the kitchen as well as dining room wait staff. **Home-made pies will also be needed.**

Sign-up in the vestry or call Ann Beltz @497-3118.



MISSIONS

Make a Difference in the Life of a Child!

**VNA is seeking caring people
willing to give time!**

Volunteers are needed to strengthen the circle of care provided by the VNA Childcare & Family Resource Center and is offering a 4-week training for new volunteers. Homemakers, professionals and retirees are welcome to apply. The 4-week volunteer training session will be held: Fridays-September 18 to October 9, 2009 10:00am to 11:30am. Please contact Linda Krisch, Volunteer Coordinator at (603) 663-4008 E-mail lkrisch@elliott-hs.org.

A NOTE FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

Pastor Charlie,

Please pass our thanks to the Congregational Church of Goffstown for their generous donation to our monthly support which the Latin America Mission received earlier in August.

We have been busy and blessed through our ministries with the Rahab Foundation, and Christian Surfers. Craig spent five days earlier this month at the International World Surfing Games which were held in Costa Rica and where Christian Surfers played a vital service role. He also spent five days last week helping out pastors planting new congregations in southern Costa Rica.

In addition to these things, on August 25th we will celebrate our 25th anniversary with the Latin America Mission. It is exciting to look back at the serving, being blessed and being a blessing we've enjoyed during these years.

Blessings,

Craig & Shelley Rice



Gordon Webster and son, Campbell, perform with Bagpipes and drum during the July 29th Worship service. It was a surprise visit arranged by Jim and Gail Blanco to welcome Pastor Ford back from his vacation in Scotland.



Well worth our reading, reflection, and prayer. – Pastor Charlie

“Where Your Treasure Is “ A monthly stewardship update from the CCCC August 2009

Last month we launched this new monthly devotional message, "Where Your Treasure Is". Our goal is to deliver an email devotional from the CCCC office to your inbox on the 15th of every month, to remind us of biblical principles of stewardship. I indicated that I would serve as editor of this monthly devotional and contribute articles at least quarterly, and other CCCC members will be scheduled to contribute other articles. This initiative was launched because our Lord has said much about Stewardship, but too often His people are unaware or not listening. We all need to listen! I hope you find these devotionals helpful. I also hope you will forward this publication to others. . .

Today's devotional focuses on a basic biblical stewardship principle:

GOD OWNS IT ALL!

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it." Psalm 24:1

"I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills!" Psalm 50:9-10

"The silver is mine and the gold is mine declares the Lord Almighty." Haggai 2:8

"So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work', he said, until I come back." Luke 9:13

"If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord.

So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.... So then,

each of us will give an account of himself to God." Romans 14:8, 12

"It is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." I Corinthians 4:2

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body." I Corinthians 6:19-20

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." I Peter 4:10

To put it most simply, these verses tell us that God owns it all! He owns the heavens and the earth, He owns every living thing. He owns all silver and gold and money. He owns it all! To bring it up close and personal, He owns me! He owns all that I have, He owns my years and days and hours and moments. He wanted me so much He paid a great price for me. I belong to Him and I will forever! It is thus my great privilege and honor to live my life in light of this glorious reality! My responsibility is to love Him, and trust Him, and serve Him by being a good steward of what He has entrusted to me, for I belong to Him!

Through the years I have had many opportunities to learn and apply this principle of Divine Ownership. Helen and I now have a fresh opportunity to see our lives from this perspective. On July 17 I was informed that I am being recalled to active duty in the United States Navy for a while to be sent to Kuwait to minister to troops coming and going into Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait. I will leave home on August 27, and following about four weeks for processing and training, I will depart on September 24 for seven months of service in Kuwait. In all I expect to be gone from this office and from my wife and family for about 8 and a half months. The Board of Directors has appointed my dear friend and co-worker Dr. Ron Hamilton to serve as Conference Minister (Acting) while I take a leave of absence for military service. In Ron's appointment we so clearly see the wisdom and gracious provision of God. Ron will thus serve as editor of this monthly devotional for the upcoming months.

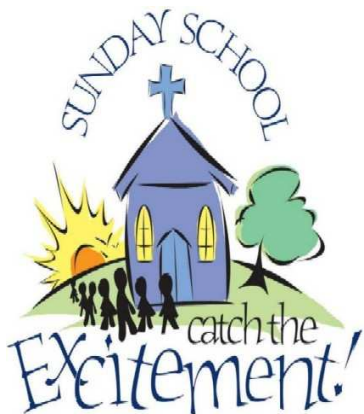
Though I will certainly miss my wife and family and our CCCC family while I am gone, I am very confident in the Lord's leading and in His faithfulness, and reminded of the truth of the Biblical Principle we're reflecting on in this devotional, OUR GOD IS THE OWNER OF ALL! If He owns everything, then He owns my life and He owns yours. Let us go where He directs us, serve as He enables us, and give as He directs us! What a privilege is ours in Christ Jesus! Thanks for reading, and thanks for praying. I look forward to seeing you when I get back if the Lord wills, or some future day in glory!



Steve Gammon

Conference Minister

Sunday School classes begin September 13th



2009 Fall Sunday School classes:

Nursery- Carla Chabot (New location! Large room to the left of Nursery.)

3-4 yr. olds- Brenda Lashway (former Nursery Room)

K-1st grade- Cat Conley and Laura Miles (Annex across from Nursery)

2-3rd grade- Sue Stuart (upstairs in Parish House)

4-6th grade- Tracy Cullen (Sunroom upstairs in Parish House)

7-8th grade- Ann Beltz and Laura Stockton (Larry Lee Room over Stark Hall)

High School will be attending Worship Service

We always have room for class helpers. Sit in on a class and see! Just ask a teacher.

HAITI UPDATE

You may have heard that Dann Bryant of Monadnock Bible Conference was in a motorcycle accident in Haiti recently. He is in serious condition in Massachusetts General Hospital and your prayers for his recovery are so needed. As we wait for his return to active ministry the projects he oversees continue. One of his great passions is the orphanage at St. Michel. This letter is from Pastor Kelly who oversees both the orphanage and the school that gives the opportunity for an education to over 250 children. Many of you may have heard that Dann Bryant of Monadnock Bible Conference was in a motorcycle accident in Haiti recently. He is in serious condition in Massachusetts General Hospital and your prayers for his recovery are so needed. As we wait for his return to active ministry the projects he oversees continue. One of his great passions is the orphanage at St. Michel. This letter is from Pastor Kelly who oversees both the orphanage and the school that gives the opportunity for an education to over 250 children. Many of you sponsor children giving hope to those without much chance for a better life without the love of those who have more than they need and are willing to share with those who can never return the gift.

May God richly bless you as He stretches your hearts for the poor.

"Give justice to the weak and the fatherless, Maintain the right of the afflicted and destitute." - Ps. 82:3

Becky

(continued on Page 7)

(Haiti Update from Page 6)

Saint-Michel, June 25, 2009

Dear Sponsor,

Today is very special for me to have the privilege to write you this letter to share with you what going on my ministry at Saint Michel, batso.

I would like to thank you first for everything you had done for my ministry that permits us to terminate with the academic year 2008-2009. Your contribution helps me doing many things for our children in "BEREAN EVANGELICAL SCHOOL", I gave to each child sponsored in the sponsorship program of MBC uniform, books, notebooks, pens, pencils and all the scholar materials. I gave food to all the children in the school. Because of your help I paid all my employees their salary. I take care of all my orphans in everything. Special thanks to you for your participation in the construction of the orphanage, I received a work team last April to paint it, and I finish with the first floor. My projection is to finish the cafeteria and work in the classrooms upstairs.

I almost finish with the water filtration system, my orphans and all children in the school have now good water to drink, Thank you so much for your contribution.

You sent gift bags and some money for the children for Christmas and birthday, I thank you for that. The children are always happy to receive them

According to the orphanage I have two new employees to have a best result very soon:

Sainvilma Elvariste and Maricame Daut. They start doing a very good job specially Sainvilma for whom MBC spent much money for his University. He is the second person in the orphanage, he starts giving good result as MBC and the Haitian office asked me to do. Maricame is the general secretary of the ministry. I ask you to pray for all of them.

I would like also to thank you for your help in the goat program, some of my orphans and some children in the school have goats and they start giving others goat. It is a very good program. For

the children and for their parents have a goat is very something very special. We pray that MBC will continue with this program and starts very soon with the chicken program and my orphans will have meat and eggs to eat. Thanks a lot.

Dear brothers and sisters let us keep praying for each other. You are very special and important for us. You are very useful for God and His people. We have nothing to give you back for everything you had done for us but we trust God can and will do everything for you, He will continue to bless you, your family and your activities.

Kelly Augustin, Pastor

Teen Challenge Sunday, October 11, 2009

The Teen Challenge Story

On February 28, 1958 David Wilkerson, an unknown country minister, ventured into New York City with a burning message of hope to share with young gangs, desperately needing to hear it. From his experience working with gang members, David Wilkerson was able to observe the horrible destruction drug addiction inflicts upon lives and families.

Soon homes were established to care for those hurting people bound by addiction to drugs and alcohol. These homes provide loving care that introduce hurting people to a God who loves them and has the power to change their lives.

The story of the birth of this work is told in the best selling classic "The Cross and the Switchblade." Teen Challenge was established 50 years ago and has grown to one of the largest and most successful drug and alcohol programs in the world. Today, there are 201 centers in the USA and over 1,000 programs inter-nationally in 82 countries. *Hope lives here, Freedom is found here and Changed lives leave here!*

**Teen Challenge is coming to our
church service of worship on
Sunday, October 11**

You will not want to miss it!

In Loving Memory

We express our sympathy and sincere condolences to the family and friends of. . .

Richard P. Berry

December 6, 1916 – June 21, 2009

Helen Martel

January 22, 1918 – July 4, 2009

“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.”

Revelation 14:13

✱ ✱ ✱

Subject: Oxymoron

Oxymoron Definition: a rhetorical figure in which incongruous or contradictory terms are combined.

EXAMPLE: “Oxymoron” – removing the Ten Commandments from the courthouse while making people in court swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God. . .while your hand is on the Bible!

Christian Radio Is Good for the Soul

- 1320 AM WDER Derry
- 590 AM WVNE Boston
- 91.1 FM WVNH Concord
- 90.7 FM WLMW Manchester

AFR American Family Radio,
www.afr.net

Uplifting music and news to encourage you
in your daily walk with Jesus Christ.

Re-Start-UP Living in Authentic Community

Practicing the one another commands

By Jim Van Yperen

“In Christ we who are many
form one body and each member
belongs to all the others.”

Romans 12:5

Coming in September our church family will re-start-up again in small groups: fellowshiping and studying and learning to practice together the “one another commands” in the Bible.

Meeting in small home groups for the final 8-week segment – **Action in Community** – all are welcome and invited to join in as we continue to learn what Jesus meant when He commanded His followers:

“Love one another as I have loved you.”

Increasingly, our neighborhoods, our communities, our world, shows how hungry we are to be really loved, the way God loves.

This small group study series will not only inform us, but will in very practical ways, biblical ways, help us to practice the kind of love we know in our Lord Jesus.

This is a very important event for all of us who claim the name of Jesus, to get involved in being loved and in loving others.

**Plan now to be involved in
being involved with
one another.**



**We don’t change the message,
the message changes us.**

The Congregational Church of Goffstown

8 & 10 Main Street

Goffstown, N.H. 03045



SCHOOL IS OPEN DRIVE CAREFULLY!

If you are looking for a Christian community

Alive in the Spirit

Biblically faithful

Christ-centered

Sunday Worship Schedule

Morning Worship 10:00am
(child care available)

Children and Youth Bible School
Every Sunday 10:15 am to 11:15 am

Youth Disciples - Wednesdays 3:30pm

Adult Sunday School 8:30 am

Adult Bible Study—Tuesdays & Fridays 7:00pm

Sundays 7:00pm

And not just on Sunday. . .

Pastoral Care

Choirs

Outreach to those in Need in the Community

Youth Programs

Small Group Bible Studies

Women's and Men's Ministries

Marriage and family seminars

Child Care – We are a “Kids First” safety policy church

Mission Opportunities Near. . .

Goffstown Network Food Pantry, Straight Ahead Ministry to kids in detention, New Horizons Homeless Shelter, Campus Crusade for Christ, The Women's Prison, and more.

And far. . .

Worldwide Missions – Monadnock Bible Conference, Haiti, Costa Rica, Papua New Guinea, and more.