



# Hillside Monthly Dispatch

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 14 No. 11

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

November 2015

## Thanks for Everlasting Lovingkindness

### From the Pastor's Desk

#### Thankfulness for a Lovingkindness that Lasts

##### Psalm 118

This is the month of Thanksgiving. On the fourth Thursday of the month we will gather with family and friends to enjoy turkey, ham, stuffing, potatoes, squash, turnip, cranberry sauce, pumpkin and apple pies, and whatever else we may be able to put down or keep down. It is the day in which our diets are put on hold and there is no limit to what we will try to eat. Most of us will devour ample portions of food while enjoying company and football for the day. Oh what a day!

As I consider this month, I am reminded that we as Christians have much to be thankful for. Such consideration caused me to think about that which God has given us which ultimately led me to read Psalm 118. This is a psalm in which the writer cries for all of God's people to give thanks to the Lord for His lovingkindness, because it is everlasting.

What does the term lovingkindness mean? As far as everlasting is concerned we can understand what that means, but how can one describe God's lovingkindness? This word is like no other in the Bible or in our vocabulary today.

When one thinks of God's lovingkindness we must realize that encompasses all the love that God can give to an individual, nation, or people group. This lovingkindness provides the backdrop for all that God will do for those He loves and for those who love Him.

It also means that God provides a means of salvation in Jesus Christ for those who turn to Him after falling from His grace. God's lovingkindness is the reason that He provides for all our needs and bestows countless blessings upon His faithful. It is because of His lovingkindness that we can celebrate the fact that He has given us life and will sustain that life for eternity or into the everlasting.

Yes, we who are Christians have much to be thankful for. God has graciously given us His Son, Jesus Christ, for a means of salvation and sanctification. He has drawn us closer to Himself and has poured out His lovingkindness on us his people, who are His children, the most blessed of all His creation. I would like to encourage you to ponder upon this passage and to consider what it means to truly give

(See Pastor's Message, p. 2)

### Upcoming Events and Meetings

Nov. 1, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

Nov. 7, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

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

Nov. 11 – Veterans' Day

Thank a veteran for serving our country.

Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Day

Give thanks with a grateful heart.

Dec. 6, midday – Christmas Fellowship Lunch

#### Weekly:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

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

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. – Fall Bible Study Series

### Fall Back One Hour

Dear old Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday Nov. 1st, so set your clocks back one hour Saturday night Oct. 31 or else you will arrive at church an hour early!



The down side is that on Saturday day night, sunset will occur at about 5:40 p.m. EDT, but on Sunday night, it will occur at 4:40 p.m. EST.

It would be better if we could just stay on Daylight Savings Time and not have darkness fall so early in the afternoon. It just make winter more gloomy.

It is notable that 14 state legislatures have recently debated bills making either EST or DST the year-round standard. So only Arizona and Hawaii stay on EST all year.

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On the web at <http://www.hillsidebaptistnh.org>

### Pastor's Message (from p. 1)

thanks this year for His lovingkindness. For His lovingkindness is far better than anything we might consume or enjoy on this Thanksgiving holiday.

Let us indeed give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Happy Thanksgiving!

✠ Pastor Jim

### Men's Breakfast

With Nov. 1st being on Sunday, the Men's Breakfast will be on Nov. 7 at 8:00 a.m. Join us for an enjoyable home-cooked meal and then take part in a lively discussion of the Letter to the Philippians. It's food for the tummy and food for the soul.

### Property and Space Patrol

Mowing has just about stopped. The leaves have been falling from the maple trees along the street but, Lord willing, they will find another resting place father down the street.

✠ Pastor Al Page

### Ten Years Ago This Month

This month, it's time to congratulate Dr. Jim Robertson on his tenth anniversary as Pastor at Hillside Baptist Church. Also impressive is the fact that he received his Doctor of Education degree (Ed.D.) on May 16, 2015 from New England College in Henniker, NH.

Since the winter holidays will soon be upon us, it was decided at the past business meeting to hold the actual celebration in January so that there will be no competition with these holidays and to ensure more participation by other NHBA churches and former members.

As a flashback, here is a reprint of the announcement about the new pastor and his family from the *Hillside Monthly Dispatch* for November 2005.

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On Nov. 20, 2005, Hillside voted unanimously to accept Pastor Jim Robertson of Hooksett as the new pastor. This event culminated a process that began when Pastor Al Page announced a few months ago his decision to retire – *again!*

Pastor Al introduced Hillsiders to Pastor Jim, who had recently returned to NH from seminary and was looking for God to answer his prayers about ministry. In essence, God brought two men together who had complementary needs. A Search Committee was formed, Pastor Jim preached a series of sermons, met with members informally, and answered questions at a formal Q&A session.

Pastor Al began his latest term of service on Feb. 8, 2004. He firmly declared that he planned to continue at Hillside as a mentor to Pastor Jim, also as part of the Property and Space Committee, and in any area of ministry where he could contribute to our mission to spread the gospel.

Pastor Jim received his bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies



Pastor Jim Robertson with his wife, Michelle, and children: Amanda, 9, Connor, 6, and Juliette, 3.

Photo courtesy of Neighborhood News

from Boyce College in 2001. He is currently six classes from completing his master's degree in divinity at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

When asked why he returned to New Hampshire, he replied, "I returned here because God wanted me to serve here. I like the growth that has happened since I've been gone, and I like that we're close to Concord."

After spending several weeks mingling with Hillsiders and preaching a series of introductory sermons, he felt that "The people here and my two deacons have been very helpful and very supportive. I want to be available for them and I want to help out in the community."

Earlier this week he was introduced to the Church Council which plans events and meetings for the church calendar. He met a serious bunch who were not averse to moments of zaniness. He melded right in.

Pastor Jim sees potential for growth and wants us to become more active in reaching out, especially to men – who are in the minority at most churches – but also to people of all ages and from all walks of life.

Welcome, Pastor Jim and family!

### Business Meeting in Review

The Fall business meeting was held on Sunday, Oct. 25. As mentioned previously, the Pastor's 10th Anniversary will now be held in January. The 2016 budget was approved and had a very small increase. See Bob LaValley for copies of the expense report and the 2016 budget. Pastor Jim was also given a fourth week of vacation. A new salt spreader was ordered to replace the rusted one. After reporting a gas leak at the parsonage, the supplier installed new propane tanks and a new regulator.

## Church Sign Maintainer Wanted

The church sign has a new message directly from Scripture. Check it out. If you would like to volunteer to maintain the sign, there are some new tools available to make the job go more easily and more quickly.

Jack Ward made a wooden storage box that holds all the letters, numbers, and most punctuation. Picking or storing characters is now a lot simpler. Michael Frascinella made a full-size layout board on which you can quickly assemble two copies of the next message and be assured that they will fit on the actual sign board.

By packing the finished messages into a small pail, you need only make one trip to the sign board to remove the old message and install the new one. You also do not have to do this all at once. You and the pastor can decide on a new message, and then you can assemble it quickly on the layout board. On another day you can pack up the letters and change the sign. You can return the old letters the next time you come to church.

If you would like to help Hillside spread the gospel message, this is one way to do that.

## Electronic Sign

The Concord Monitor reported on Oct. 28 that "The church exhausted its options within municipal government Monday, when the zoning board at a rehearing unanimously refused to grant a variance or overrule the code enforcement officer's denial from this spring."

Michael Tierney, attorney for Signs4Jesus, said that the zoning board violated state and federal law. As a result of the denial of the variance, other legal options are being considered.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries



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

- 11/18 Warren Hastings
- 11/19 Barbara Kingsbury
- 11/29 Michelle Robertson



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

- 11/28 Jack & Cynthia Ward

## 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 will be our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus our Lord.

## Hillside on the Web

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

## Submissions for Next Issue

Deadline is Nov. 25. Send news items to News Wrangler 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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