



The Beacon

Harrisburg Christian Church

201 East Sexton • P.O. Box 36 • Harrisburg, Missouri • 65256
(573) 875-5577 • FAX (573) 875-5199 • hcc@socket.net

John Gillman, Pastor
Home Phone: 573-874-9997

JULY 2010

Greetings HCC,

“God loves you as if you were the only one in the world to love.” (H.B. London Jr.) Have you ever felt lost in the crowd or been in a place where no one knew you? Have you ever been lonely in the midst of a group of people? You are not just a face in the crowd to God. He knows you by name. He knows the number of the hairs on your head. He loves you.

Sometimes I am looking at a group of people and see my wife in the group. We make eye contact and smile and for a moment everyone else and all the noise of the room becomes secondary to the beautiful face of my best friend (Happy 16th Anniversary Kathleen!). Maybe that moment is a small taste of the love that God has for us.

When we had our first child, I was amazed at the amount of emotion and love that holding our child stirred up in me. The thought of having a second and third child made me wonder if I could love another child as much as the first, but I found that love is not like a pie where someone might get a bigger slice than someone else. As an imperfect dad, I am still able to experience an equally deep love for each child. Our heavenly Father has a love that is not tainted by sin and selfishness. I believe he loves you with the same depth that he loves the people we read about in the Bible. The apostle Paul put it this way in Ephesians 3:17-19 “...And I pray that you being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” (NIV)

God loves you. He loves you when you fail. He loves you when others reject you. He loves you when you don't love Him. He loves you. Max Lucado wrote “God loves you just the way you are, but he refuses to leave you that way; He wants you to be just like Jesus”

My prayer for you is similar to Paul's. I pray that you would experience the reality of God's love and that you would grow in that love and reflect that love to our community, just like Jesus.

“For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:16 NIV)

God Loves You!
John Gillman

Other Tidbits:

1. Class 201 (Habits of Maturity) will be offered on July 11th and Class 101 (The HCC Membership class) will be offered on July 18th. Sign up with John Gillman
2. We have some exciting small group Bible studies going on in our church for all ages. Contact Vonna Foley or Elaina Priddy to find out which group would be a good fit for you.
3. When you get this Beacon we will be at the final planning stages for the float trip. The trip is open to people of all ages. If you are interested in coming contact John at the church office ASAP, it's almost too late.

Save these dates:

- July 9th and 10th – HCC Float Trip (This is for any age)
- August 5th and 6th – Leadership Summit for those in a leadership position @ HCC
- August 27th and 28th – HCC Family Camp @ Mt. Zion campgrounds. (Note the date change from last month)

HCC is a great place to worship our Lord! We invite you to join us this Sunday!

Bible Study for all ages at 9:00am. Worship Service at 10:00am
(Childcare is provided for children less than 5 years during Worship Services)

Mission Minute – Hope Chest for Kids

By Laura Lee Rose

It's the HCC Family Reunion and we want YOU!

It's the time of year when family reunions are widespread, so we are going to host ours as well! Please join us on Sunday, July 25th right after church on the farm of Gabe and Jodi Gilpin.

The Fellowship Committee will provide drinks. Bring a picnic lunch and lawn chairs for you and your family. They have a lake, so you may also want to bring swim suits, fishing poles, washers or yard games, and don't forget the sun screen! There is also a place to put in a boat.

John will be available for baptisms that day, so if you are interested, please speak with him. We thank the Gilpin family in advance for their hospitality! Directions to their home will be available at church. In the case of rain, we can have lunch together in Fellowship Hall.



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Thanks to Pam Winn (See Matthew 4:6)

03-18-2005

THINGS EASED UP ON GUARDIAN ANGELS AFTER AIR BAGS WERE INVENTED

Hope Chest for Kids is a non-profit organization that provides programs to help provide safe homes and compassionate foster parents for children who are removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect, unsafe or dangerous conditions. Ron and Suzie Forbis run Hope Chest for Kids based in Clark, MO. Ron and Suzie have been foster parents for 12 years, and several years ago decided to do something about the challenges facing all foster families in the area. They began Hope Chest for Kids "after dreaming about it for a year and half," says Suzie. As foster kids age out of the system, there were no funds available for car insurance, extra family activities, etc. said Suzie, who is the daughter of HCC members Pat and Lloyd Rowland.

"A foster home can often be the place where children begin to heal from the trauma they have experienced. Foster Parents provide a safe home for children during a time of great stress and turmoil." Suzie said. Hope Chest for Kids programs strengthens families by providing services and financial support to foster youth and at-risk youth in Missouri. They provide food, clothing, educational assistance, mentoring, camps, activity fees and support for multiple needs including helping older youth aging out of the foster care system. One of their programs provides musical instruments and/or music lessons, and they welcome donations of either.

Hope Chest serves 500 children in about 150 families with their food distribution program. A current need is a vehicle or van to pull up to 6000 pounds of food that they deliver each week. Their current vehicle has 176,000 miles on it and is not running well. Help with the food distribution at 6:30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at Grace Bible Church is always welcome.

A home has been donated to Hope Chest for Kids and they are looking for volunteers or youth groups interested helping with financial support and workers to remodel a room in the house.

Suzie asked in particular that we pray for the foster families who are struggling financially, emotionally and physically. Pray for strength, patience and guidance to meet the needs of all the children, especially during the summer months when parents don't get a break. Two foster moms in particular need prayers for health concerns. One recently had a stroke and is currently in rehab. Another is undergoing daily chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Future plans include the 5K Walk Me Home event scheduled in October, as well as a tutoring and back pack program to kick off in the fall. Stay tuned for details. For more information, or to donate, visit www.hopechestforkids.com.



Dates to Remember!!

Jam Session – First & Third Tuesday (July 6th & 20th) 7pm

Health Clinic – Second Thursday (July 8th) 12-1pm

Board Meeting – Second Thursday (July 8th) 6pm

HCC Float Trip - July 9th and 10th

Fellowship HCC Reunion – Sunday July 25th immediately following service

TLC – Fourth Tuesday (July 27th) 7pm

Women's Bible Study – Mondays @ 7pm

Men's Bible Study – Thursdays @ 6pm

Bulletin Information Due Wednesdays
amy@coyotehill.org or 573-819-1906

Beacon Articles due the 15th
beacon@harrisburgchristian.org

July Service Assignments:

Church Opening

- 04 Randy & Vonna Foley
- 11 Bobby & Brenda Carey
- 18 Debby Thomas
- 25 Ray & Judy Cochran

Greeters

- 04 Jacob & Amy Kingery
- 11 Chris Cole Family
- 18 Tootie Hardman & Elizabeth Freeman
- 25 Betty Jones & Elaina Priddy

Communion

- 04 Johnny Spry, Randy Foley, Jodi Gilpin, Rinda Blakemore, Angie McBride, Christy Blakemore
- 11 Bobby Carey, Sam Coy, Jimmy Hendren, Kim Lanes, Brenda Carey, Cindy Roller
- 18 Levi Graham, Karen Kinkead, Judy Price, Sean Cochran, Joy McBee, Charlie Thurston
- 25 Ray Cochran, Herb Owens, Cec Blakemore, Cara Douglas, Shelly Perrigo, Debby Thomas

Church Closing

- 04 Roy & Luda Francis
- 11 Kathleen Gillman
- 18 Debbie Burks & Amy Price
- 25 Dale & Rinda Blakemore

Candle Lighters

- 04 Betty Jones
- 11 Jimmy Hendren Family
- 18 Guy Stroud Family
- 25 Keith Overton Family

Nursery

- 04 Cec Blakemore, Wendy Hendrin, Brenda Carey
- 11 Marla Oglesby, Rinda Blakemore, Mikaela Lewis
- 18 Judy Cochran, Brett Blakemore, Meghan Sublett
- 25 Mary Gilbert, Leslie Morgan, Joy McBee



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Each one should remain in the situation which he was in when God called him. Were you a slave when you were called? Don't let it trouble you—although if you can gain your freedom, do so. For he who was a slave when he was called by the Lord is the Lord's freedman; similarly, he who was a free man when he was called is Christ's slave.

1 Corinthians 7:20-22, NIV

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