

# PARK HILLS CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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## A Word Or Two (or three) From Wally

I would like to invite you to join us this year at our Labor Day Retreat at Black River Center for Learning near Carlsbad, N.M. Our plans are to leave Friday night and return after lunch on Monday. This is a great way to get to know others in the church and to grow spiritually. Each retreat we study a major issue or book in the Bible. This year we will be studying "Ezekiel, the man and his message." Ezekiel was taken to Babylon when Jerusalem fell. He was God's representative to the Jewish exiles. His messages were to tell them of the future of Jerusalem, God's judgment, and their eventual return. Ezekiel has some weird visions from wheels inside wheels, a valley of dead bones coming back to life, and a description of the Battle of Armageddon. We will look into all of these issues, bring this book alive in its historical perspective, and see how its prophecies could be fulfilled in our lifetimes. The cost for 3 nights (includes meals and lodging) is \$125.00 for Adults and \$67.50 for students. Children under 5 years of age are free. Accommodations are similar to what you would find at a motel. Individual rooms (if you are interested in one) cost a little more than shared rooms. Come and join us! Regular services will still take place in El Paso for those who are unable to attend.

See you Sunday,

Wally



## Did You Know?

- The Women's Bible Study, which normally meets on Monday evenings at 7:00pm has been taking a short break but is now meeting again. All women are encouraged to attend.
- The Young Adults Bible Study, which normally meets on Monday evenings at 6:30pm, is taking a break until August. We will let you know when it is scheduled to start up again.
- The Tuesday Morning Bible Study, which meets at 10:00am, is taking a break for the summer. We will also let you know when this study is scheduled to begin again.
- Youth Group, which normally meets every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm, will take a break until after summer vacation.
- Celebrate Recovery, a ministry designed to help people who are struggling with issues in their life continues to meet here at Park Hills each Wednesday at 6:58pm. This ministry is for everyone who struggles with issues in life, not just those who struggle with alcohol, drugs, etc. It will help to disciple you to be conformed more to the image of our Lord. Prayerfully consider attending.

- Make plans now to attend our upcoming **Labor Day Retreat**, which will be held September 1-4<sup>th</sup> at the Black River Center for learning in Carlsbad, New Mexico. We will be focusing on the prophet "Ezekiel, The Man and His Message." Make plans to join us, you'll be glad you did.
- Anyone with an idea for a message for the sign can present it to the church office for approval. We are looking for messages that promote the Lord Jesus or the churches outreach efforts. No birthday or anniversary notices please.



## Prayers & Praise

*Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18  
(RSV)

- ☺ Dorothy Wearden is now at home. Let's continue to pray for God's continued intervention.
- ☺ Please pray for our church family and friends that are recovering from illnesses or are home bound. In addition, there are many that need our prayers for spiritual peace and guidance.

## Church Directory Update Continues...

Because the membership of Park Hills Church is very fluid (we have always had a large number of military and student members) it is a constant chore to keep our membership directory updated. This has been especially true since we lost Marcia who did such a good job with this. During the next few weeks we are attempting to establish a membership database which will aid us not only with the directory but also with other things. We will be attempting to contact everyone to get updated information, but you can assist us greatly if you will fill out one of the "Directory Information" forms we have prepared for this purpose. You can find them on the table in the foyer. Once completed you can either leave them in the tray on the table or give them to Jay Gilliland. We appreciate your help.

## ALL FAITH NIGHT AT COHEN STADIUM

Everyone is encouraged to attend "All Faith Night" with the El Paso Diablo's at Cohen Stadium on August 11, 2006. The "Veggie Tales" will be present and there will be a concert by the Christian band "Overflow." Tickets are \$5 each for general admission or \$4 each for parties of twenty or more.

Call the church office for more information...

## Allen's Thoughts . . .

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or*

*abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."*

**The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution**

It was Thomas Jefferson who said, "On every question of construction [of the Constitution] let us carry ourselves back to the time when the Constitution was adopted, recollect the spirit manifested in the debates, and instead of trying what meaning may be squeezed out of the text, or intended against it, conform to the probable one in which it was passed."

That is something few American jurists still do, especially those of the Liberal variety. So let us take a good look at what our Founding Fathers had to say about religion and government.

**Thomas Jefferson** also wrote in his "Notes on the State of Virginia," 1781, "God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift of God, that they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever."

*The First Act of Congress following their agreement of the precise wording of the First Amendment (Congress shall make no law concerning the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...) was to ask President Washington to declare a national day of fasting and prayer!*

**George Washington**, October 3, 1789, proclaiming a National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving, "It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and to humbly implore His protection and favor."

not so to do; but that he is executing one of the most solemn trusts in human society for which he is accountable to God and his country."

**Said Adams** at the signing of the Declaration of Independence: "We have this day restored the Sovereign to Whom all men ought to be obedient. He reigns in heaven and from the rising to the setting of the sun, let His Kingdom come."

**Said Adams**, "Statesmen...may plan and speculate for Liberty, but it is Religion and Morality alone, which can establish the Principles upon which Freedom can securely stand..... We have no Government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion...Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

**Noah Webster** (1758-1843): "The Bible must be considered as the great source of all the truth by which men are to be guided in government as well as in all social transactions..."

**William Penn** said, "The future and success of America is not in this Constitution, but in the laws of God upon which this Constitution is founded."

**Andrew Jackson**, "The Bible is the foundation upon which our republic rests."

It is undeniable that this nation was founded on Christian principles and it behoves us to never forget. I believe that **Ronald Reagan** said it best, "**If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a Nation gone under.**"

Seeking the Harvest with You,

Allen

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ADDRESS LABEL

**Washington's Farewell Address stated**, "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and morality are indispensable supports... It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

**Samuel Adams**: "Let each citizen remember at the moment he is offering his vote that he is not making a present or a compliment to please an individual - - or at least that he ought