

# NEWS2USE

May 7, 2009-May 20, 2009

## PASTOR'S CORNER The "New Self" in Daily Roles

In my last article, devoted to Colossians 3:4-17, I focused on the way we are made new in Christ. We are to "*put to death*" whatever in us is earthly (3:5) and "*clothe*" ourselves with the new self (3:10). We are to "*clothe*" ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, and love (3:12, 14). In Christ, we are absolutely new creations. It should be obvious when someone is a Christian. He or she should be different in terms of mercy, grace, peace, and love from other people who are not Christians.

This difference is seen in daily roles. In writing the Colossian Christians, Paul identifies three household roles – marriage, parent-child, and master-slave. He gives reciprocal instructions in each case. His guiding phrase for all human relationships, especially the most intimate which he addresses, is in Colossians 3:18, 23: "*as is fitting in the Lord.*" "*Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord.*"

Colossians 3:18-19 is not to be read as a testament to male hierarchy. "*Wives be subject to your husbands; husbands love your wives.*" Paul didn't need to tell the Christians to live in a system where husbands/fathers ruled the homes. That was already the norm. Anything else would be outside the norm. The wives, the slaves, the children all fell under the leadership (and sometimes heavy-handed rule) of the fathers. Paul was not offering comment in favor of or against this system. He was advising Christians how to be godly within the system.

The instruction out of this verse for a husband is to love his wife. The instruction is not for a husband to take the 1<sup>st</sup> century domestic system the verses assume and put that system in place in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. He is to take the principle and apply it in his life. In 2009, a time when men *and* women get education, and men *and* women obtain jobs including professional jobs, and men *and* women share household chores and childrearing, it would be foolish to appeal to Colossians 3 in an attempt to institute modern patriarchy.

We live in an egalitarian age, and that is a good thing. Women today are not prevented by social systems from expressing their spiritual gifts to the full. If then, Colossians 3:18-19 is not a prescription for a male-dominated marriage, how does it speak to the modern marriage? The woman should subject herself to her husband because Christians are humble and submit to one another. The man should love his wife because Christians are called to love one another as Christ loved us.

Similarly, children are called to obey their parents, and fathers are warned against "*provoking*" their kids (3:20-21). Why? This is "*acceptable duty*" in the Lord.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> century, slavery was an established institution, and just as Paul made no comment for or against the way marriages existed, he made no comment for continuing slavery or for ending it. He was teaching about living as new creations in Christ within the institution of slavery. For the glory of Christ, he prescribed slaves to be hard-working, trustworthy slaves trusting that

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(*'Pastor's Corner' continued from page 1*)

they would receive an eternal reward. He told the masters to be just and fair to their slaves, and he implied they (and we) were slaves to their Heavenly master (4:1).

The application of the verses related to slavery, and really of the entire section is clear. Live the roles of life in such a way that Christ is seen in us. We live in the mundane, day-to-day world as "God's chosen ones, holy and beloved" (3:12). In the community (the neighborhood, the church, the worksite, the town, the PTA group, the marketplace, the office, the dormitory), Jesus-followers are the most valued members because we serve everyone else, we build everyone up, and we love everyone. Where life is real (not the ivory tower of academia or the removed, ethereal setting of Sunday morning worship), it is obvious who the disciples of Jesus are. They are the ones helping everyone else. They are the ones who aren't selfish or overly concerned about their own self-interests.

Rob Tennant

## HillSong Church Elders (June 2009-May 2010)

We are pleased to announce the results of last Sunday's Elder Election. **Donna Allgood, Albert Collier, Brenda Stiles** and **Merri White** were elected and will begin 3-year terms starting in June. These election results establish the following Elder Board for the coming year:

Donna Allgood	James Hollingsworth
Diane Asbill	Daniel Marcy
Tamara Baker	Laura Shrewsbury
Rose Barnes	Brenda Stiles
Ginger Burks	Bob Thompson
Albert Collier	Merri White

### Financial Snapshot March 2009

#### General Fund

3/1/09	Beginning Balance	\$ 60,839.30
	Receipts:	
	Offerings	32,036.15
	Parking	-
	Building	1,785.00
	Expense Offsets	257.12
	Expenses	(38,829.77)
3/31/09	Ending Balance	\$ 56,087.80

#### Specials Fund

3/1/09	Beginning Balance	\$10,065.83
	Receipts	2,601.35
	Expenses	(2,799.78)
3/31/09	Ending Balance	\$ 9,867.40

#### Savings Account (Long Range Fund, CD, Ministry & Missions Reserves)

3/1/09	Beginning Balance	\$ 143,431.42
	Receipts	186.81
	Expenses	-
3/31/09	Ending Balance	\$ 143,618.23



Financial Peace University is returning to HillSong Church! Financial Peace University is a 13-week, Christ-centered personal financial management class taught on video by Dave Ramsey. Please come to our free class preview on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm to find out all the details. If you want to get some more information now, please contact Kent Stone at [kent@hillsong.org](mailto:kent@hillsong.org) or 423-8317.

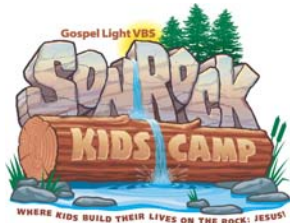


# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NOTES

## VBS News from Rebecca Wells

VBS is coming up soon. Thank you to all the people who have already signed up to help. It is a blessing to us and to God. We are still in need of some helpers in several positions, as well as a **Co-Director**, so please contact Faye Hilger or Rebecca Wells if you are interested.

For those already signed up to work or for those interested in helping here is my contact information. **Cell# - 428-8254 Email- rebeccawells2@hotmail.com**



Remember Summer Camp?...the fun, the games, the new friends, the memories and stories to tell for years after? We're looking forward to a great "camp experience" **June 14-18 from 6:30 to 8:30 each evening.**

**SonRock Kids Camp** provides evangelism opportunities and the salvation message in every lesson. With 4 daily Bible lessons from Matthew's gospel (**Jesus Chooses Peter, Jesus Walks on Water, Peter's Confession of Christ, Peter Denies Jesus**), and from Acts 3 (**Peter Helps a Lame Man**), the children learn daily truths and focal Bible verses. They learn : **I am Accepted by Jesus, I am Protected by Jesus, I am Saved by Jesus, I am Forgiven by Jesus, and , I can Live for Jesus.** We're thankful that **Todd Baker and Roger Sit** will once again serve as **Bible teachers** for our campers - meeting them each day at **Look-Out Point** with the Bible lesson for the day.

**Our theme verse will be 1 John 3:1- "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God."**

We adults who know this have a great opportunity to share this with the children of our church and neighborhood. Some of our key positions are **ALREADY** filled. We're so thankful for these who've made this commitment; but how about you?

Maybe you're the "Camp Counselor" that kids remember into adulthood? There are still **many ways to serve in VBS this year! Everyone can pray!! Please pray for the children who will come and for those who will work with them and teach them . Please pray about what role you might fill this year.** There is a place of service for everyone.

**Currently Seeking: Co-Director, Pre-Registration/Preview Event Coordinator, Hungry Bear Picnic Coordinator (Meals for Workers) and Preschool Teachers.** Positions start immediately with the planning and preparation process.

**Also Needed:** Registrars (2), Adult and Youth Trail Guides. Your work starts later.

## HillSong Playground

Spring is here and these warm sunny days draw everyone to the playground! Extended Session classes like to go outdoors for part of their class time. **Take a look as you leave after wor-**

*(Continued on page 4)*

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**ship on Sunday mornings.** You'll find many children and their families gathered on the playground for an extended time to fellowship. As the children run, and slide and play, families are able to visit and catch up with each other. These are happy scenes and sounds.

We have a wonderful play structure for our preschoolers and a great sandbox under the eaves built by Tom Timmons and a group of youth and adults several years ago. However, we need a larger play structure for our older children. This structure would replace the *metal slide that gets too hot to use for much of the year and does not meet current safety standards.* **We have proposals from three different companies. They all offer really neat possibilities; but there is no money for this in the current HillSong budget... so, what can we do now? The most timely solution is to fundraise until we collect the \$6,000 needed.**

**Currently seeking interested person(s) who would organize and lead this effort. Please feel free to think creatively!!! See Faye if you can help.**

### **Upcoming Events:**

May 10 - Parent-Child Dedication

May 30 - Proposed VBS Preview/Pre-Registration Event

May 31 - Family Worship

June 14-19 VBS @ 6:30 to 8:30 each evening



**SATURDAY MAY 9TH**

**HillSong Coffee House**

**Doors Open  
From 7pm till 10pm**

**\$ 5.00 Admission**



**All Ages Welcome!**  
**All the Coffee you can drink!**  
**Drop in for a cup or stay all night!**

Fair Trade Coffee provided by Starbucks

**Featuring Live Music by:  
Christy Tennant**

[www.christytennant.com](http://www.christytennant.com)



**HillSong Church 201 Culbreth Rd Chapel Hill, NC 27516**  
For more info contact: 919-967-3056 or [jonathan@hillsong.org](mailto:jonathan@hillsong.org)

## **ELDER UPDATE, May 2009**

At our May meeting this week, our elders heard about lots of great happenings at HillSong. Here's a quick snapshot:

- The **HillSong Coffee House is on Sat., May 9, 7-10 pm**, with Christy Tennant performing (she's Pastor Rob's sister AND a very talented singer/musician). It's a fundraiser for our youth who have worked so hard to raise the almost \$3000 they need to cover their trip to World Changers in July. Come out, relax, listen, and enjoy the fellowship while you lend your support to our youth.
- Small groups are the backbone for our church because they are a place for us to make lasting relationships and be supported by others who love us while we learn about the Bible and Christian principles. And have tons of fun! Did you know that about 70% of our HillSong family is involved in small groups on an ongoing basis? **If you are not in a small group, I hope you'll see Heather ([heather@hillsong.org](mailto:heather@hillsong.org)) about a group that might be a fit for you.** It's an easy way to give very little to get so much back in return.
- Yeah!!! ...We have a fearless leader for Vacation Bible School – Rebecca Wells, the newest member to our church! **She'll need lots of help so please see her or Faye Hilger if you want to be involved in this annual event that is one of the highlights of our kids' life and mine!** HillSong VBS is June 14-18 in the evenings. Remember to invite your friends and neighbors.
- **BIG PLANS for our church PLAYGROUND!** We're hoping to replace the tall metal slide with an updated play structure that all ages of kids will enjoy, and maybe add a recreation feature for youth. More details to follow... BUT we need to raise funds for this, **AND we need someone to take the lead on fundraising for the playground improvements.** Please see Faye ([fayetony@att.net](mailto:fayetony@att.net)) or Jonathan Elwing ([jonathan@hillsong.org](mailto:jonathan@hillsong.org)) if you're interested.
- **TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME...** Plans for a HillSong PICNIC and SOFTBALL GAME are in the works for this summer. What a super church-wide outing this will be! **Volunteers needed to help organize the event—see Diane Asbill ([dasbill@nc.rr.com](mailto:dasbill@nc.rr.com)).**

May is the end of my term as chair of elders. Serving in this role has been a pleasure for me, and I want to thank everyone for their support. I praise our Lord that I am a part of such a loving church family as HillSong.

*Tamara Baker, Elder Chair*

*The honour of your presence is requested*

*at the marriage of*

*Christy Dee Pruitt*

*daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Dewitt Pruitt*

*to*

*William Thomas Highsmith, Jr.*

*son of Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas*

*Highsmith, Sr.*

*Saturday, the sixth of June*

*two thousand and nine*

*at half past one o'clock in the afternoon*

*HillSong Church*

*201 Culbreth Road*

*Chapel Hill, North Carolina*

*Reception immediately following ceremony*

Please RSVP by May 10th to [willhi1979@yahoo.com](mailto:willhi1979@yahoo.com)

## **BIRTHDAYS IN MAY**

1 Nancy Parker

3 Albert Collier

7 Riana Roche

10 Logan Fox

15 Gary Howe

21 Candy Tennant

24 Rachel Sudderth

25 Kumari Mathew

26 Brenda Zelon

Taylor Fox

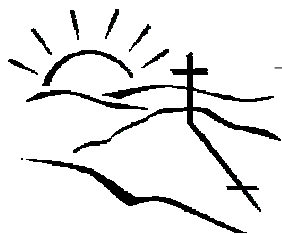
27 Neil Barlow

30 Leonard Cheek

# MAY 2009

"THE HILLS WILL BURST INTO SONG!" ISAIAH 55

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	2
3  9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:00pm Grace CC 5:00pm Drama Team	4	5  7:00pm Elders Meeting 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	6  6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	7  7:00pm Troop 45	8  7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	9  7:00pm Youth Coffee House
10  9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:00pm Grace CC 5:00pm Drama Team	11	12  7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	13  6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	14  8:30am to 5:30pm Chapel Hill Homeschoolers Testing  7:00pm Troop 45	15  7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	16
17  9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:00pm Grace CC 5:00pm Drama Team	18	19  7:00pm Worship Planning 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	20  6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	21  7:00pm Troop 45	22  7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	23
24  9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:00pm Grace CC 5:00pm Drama Team	25  1:30pm Mushana Food Distribution	26  7:00pm Deacons Meeting 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	27  6:30pm ConnecXion 6:30pm Handbells 7:30pm Worship Team Rehearsal	28  7:00pm Troop 45	29  7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous	30
31  9:45am Sun. School 11:00am Worship 3:30pm Busy Hands 4:00pm Grace CC 5:00pm Drama Team						



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