

Son Times

He who has the Son has life, he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. - 1 John 5:12

Issue #1 ***** May 1, 2013



Welcome! You are reading the very first edition of Son Times! This mission of this publication is to widen the Christian worldview among the local Christian population. Many news stories, that affect Christians, never see the light of day in the secular news. Christian history is overlooked and forgotten. Christian books, movies and CDs are not widely advertised. And Christian leaders, who should be recognized for their work for God's kingdom, remain unknown. We are in times where our Constitutional rights of religious liberty and freedom of speech and are under attack. We must stand together as the Body of Christ to defeat this increasing threat.

You may be wondering, why the picture of stones? Dr. Tony Evans, Senior Pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas, Texas, gave a speech at the National Religious Broadcasters convention in Nashville, Tennessee. In his message, he contends that it is the failure of the Church that has greatly contributed to the chaos in the culture. He uses Matthew 16:18 "on this rock I will build my church" and challenges the meaning of the word "rock", traditionally interpreted as

Christ. The Greek word, Petra, translated 'Rock' is used in classical Greek to refer to a collection of stones that had been knitted together to form a larger slab, bigger cliff or rocky ledge. It was stones connected to one another. Dr. Evans suggests that Christ will build his Church, in this passage, by the coming together of individual stones, that would make something bigger than any one stone could ever be on its own. Peter says in 1 Peter 2:5, "you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house." And if the enemy can keep the stones from ever becoming the Rock, he will keep the Church from ever fulfilling it's mission. It was a very thought-provoking, inspiring message with many analogies and humor. Janet Parshall played his whole message on her radio show on April 9th and you can hear the audio here: www.moodyradio.org/radioplayer.aspx?episode=108058&hour=2

April Showers



The month of April has showered us with much death and destruction. We stared, unbelieving at the images on the internet and in the newspapers of bombs exploding at the Boston Marathon. We

saw people running and screaming and heard reports of the dead and injured. We sat glued to our televisions watching a shootout between police and Chechnyan terrorists in the streets of Watertown, Mass. We learned of another attempt by terrorists in Canada, foiled by Canadian police, that likely would have killed and hurt many on the train between NY and Canada. A fertilizer plant



exploded in West, Texas, killing many and leveling part of the town. Poison letters were sent to the President and a Senator. A 6.3-magnitude earthquake shook Iran and magnitude-7 earthquake rocked China. We learned of a horrifying abortion clinic in Philadelphia, where women have died and babies have been killed after being born alive after botched abortions. We watched the funeral of Margaret

Thatcher. We grieved with Pastor Rick Warren and his wife after learning of the suicide of their son. So much fear, grief and sadness. So, what should our response be to all of this? We know that God is sovereign and nothing happens without it passing through his mighty hands. We also know that He makes all things work together for good...yet what good could possibly come out of these horrible events? First, it opens doors of communication with our friends, family and co-workers. We hear the questions asked by commentators and unbelievers of “Where was God?” and “How could God let this happen?” Our friends may ask us the same questions. We must be ready to give an answer for the hope that resides in us. We need to be in the Word so we feel comfortable in explaining to them that when God created this world, it was a perfect place, with no sin, no death, and no sadness. But when Adam disobeyed God, sin and death came

into this world and man became separated from God. This world is broken and the only way man can be reconciled to God is through Jesus Christ. He is the only hope and healing for broken hearts. Second, it gives us the opportunity to minister to people and show them the love of Jesus, if we are in an area near them. If not, there are ways to send help through organizations such as [Samaritan's Purse](#)



or [One Fund Boston.](#)



Or we could possibly get involved in a short-term mission trip. Third, it reminds us of our reliance on God, and how much more we need to pray and thank God for his blessings on us. And last, we need to recognize that time is short. The Bible tells us that as it nears end-times, calamities will grow closer and more frequent. If it were to

happen tomorrow, would you be ready? God has been gracious, allowing time for all to come to Christ. But there will be a point at which He says, “Enough.” We must be deliberate in our efforts to lovingly warn of the impending judgment on those who deny Christ. But we can't let all this calamity get to us. We must remember who holds us in the palm of His hand. Romans 8:37-39 tells us, *“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Let's pray that May will bring us spring flowers!



National Day of Prayer 2013



The 62nd annual observance of the National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 2nd. The theme for 2013 is "Pray for America" and the verse is Matthew 12:21 - "In His name the nations will put their hope." The themesong is "Pray" by Sanctus Real. Greg Laurie, the senior pastor of Harvest Christian Fellowship in Riverside, California, will be the Honorary



Chairman, who has written a prayer that will be read throughout the nation at noon.

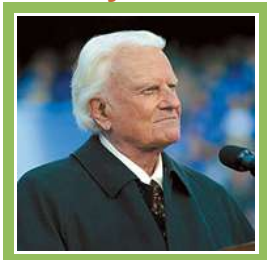
There will be organized events in thousands of venues across America, which can be found, by state, on the NDP website.

nationaldayofprayer.org

Join Pastor Greg Laurie, Dr. James and Shirley Dobson, Congressman Robert

Aderholt, Mrs. Vonette Bright, Mr. Pat Boone, Congressman Frank Wolf, Wintley Phipps, Chaplain Barry Black, The Annie Moses Band, Dr. Dick Eastman, Mr. David Butts, Mr. John Bornschein, and more will be broadcast LIVE 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon EST, from Cannon House Office Building on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. The program will also be broadcast on DirecTV channel 365 and streamed LIVE on the NDP website. The mission of the National Day of Prayer Task Force is to mobilize prayer in America and to encourage personal repentance and righteousness in the culture.

My Hope with Billy Graham



My Hope with Billy Graham is a nationwide effort to reach people across the

United States with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. *My Hope* combines the impact of video programs with the power of personal relationships, using a simple Biblical model, they call "Matthew and Friends" The Apostle Matthew invited his friends into his home to meet Jesus. Likewise, many Christians across America will develop relationships with people who they have chosen to pray for and then will invite their friends into their home so they can hear the life-changing message of the gospel. More information, as well as online training can be found at:

myhopewithbillygraham.org

Iron Sharpens Iron Conference



The Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conferences were held on April 20th in both Portland and Portsmouth (actually in Greenland, NH). Men from all over the area

attended. Iron Sharpens Iron is considered an equipping conference designed to equip the men of every church to disciple and build Christian leaders. The crowd in NH was standing room only and the voices of so many men singing praises to God was truly inspiring. There were two key-note speakers and various workshops for the attendees. The reports given by men who attended were very favorable and they are looking forward to next year's event.

Operation Christmas Child



Congratulations to Kathleen McInerney for being named Area Coordinator of the Maine – West area for Operation Christmas Child. Kathleen has volunteered to create a

team of volunteers to facilitate the Operation Christmas Child collection of shoebox gifts in this area that will be distributed worldwide. So far her team includes Lauren and Steve LaPlant as Church Relations Coordinators; Pam and Bob Andrews as Media Relation Coordinators; Barbara Black – Tomblinson as Network Coordinator; Sherri Hofacker as Administrative Assistant and Nancy Osborn as Prayer Coordinator with Prayer Team Members Judy Peverada, Terry Kramer and Wealthyanne Jordan. All are looking forward to working together on this Christ honoring endeavor. **Operation**



Christmas Child is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, run by Billy Graham's Son, Franklin. Operation Christmas Child is a way to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, together with the local church to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Each shoebox is filled with simple small gifts, a book

about Jesus in the child's own language and then each child is given the opportunity to be part of "The Greatest Journey", a discipleship program to help them become faithful followers of Jesus Christ. More information about Operation Christmas Child can be found at: www.samaritanspurse.org

Passings George Beverly Shea



The man the world considered "America's Beloved Gospel Singer" went home to be with his Lord on April 16th at the young age of 104. He was considered to be the world's first international singing star because of his solos at the Billy Graham Crusades all over the world, having exposure on television, radio and having recorded over 70 records. He held the

Guinness Book of World records for performing before the most people - more than 220 million during his career.. He was loved for his full, rich uplifting baritone voice. Shea is best know for his rendition of "How Great Thou Art" and for writing the tune to "I'd Rather Have Jesus", as well as both the lyrics and music to "The Wonder of it All" Shea was nominated for 10 Grammy awards, winning the 1966 Grammy for Best Gospel or Other Religious Recording for his album "Southland Favorites" In 1978 he was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame and in 2010 he was presented the Lifetime Achievement Grammy Award. Not to mention many other musical awards along



the way. Billy Graham always insisted that without "Bev", he would have no ministry, although Shea maintained a wry

modesty about his role. Cliff Barrow, long time music director for the BGEA Crusades, said that "Bev was used by the Spirit of God to prepare the hearts of the people for the message and he would prepare Billy's heart to preach that message." Shea was laid to rest at the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, North Carolina

History Patriots Day on the Lexington Green with the Patriot Pastor



On April 19th, Garrett Lear, affectionately known across the nation as the Patriot Pastor, was on the green in Lexington Common to commemorate the revolutionary "shot heard around the world". This refers to the beginning of the American Revolutionary War in the battles of Lexington and Concord, which led to

the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the 13 Colonies achieving their freedom from Britain. New Hampshire resident, Garrett Lear is a direct descendant of a Lexington Militia/ Minuteman, who was on the Battle Green on April 19, 1775. Garrett was born in Lexington and grew up on the green. This year on Patriot's Day he reminded us of the important events that happened over 200 years ago. While it's important to remember what happened so long ago and the sacrifice that was made, we must today pick up that same standard.



We need not to just remember what these valiant men did, but we must be willing to carry on what they started. During the Patriot Pastor's speech, he told about the patriot pastors of that day and their role in the fight for liberty. Nearly all of the Minute Men were Christians. They were parishioners of the town's church, pastored by the Rev.

Jonas Clark, who was known as a great patriot and preached the principles of liberty and independence from his pulpit. The pastors at that time were often in charge of organizing the town's militia that was required by law, and they were ready to fight if necessary. They believed that all authority was subject to the authority of God and they were doing the will of God by fighting oppression. The British had abused their authority over the Colonists. The clergy

was so influential in the war effort, that the British referred to them as the Black Regiment

because they wore black robes. Their battle cry became, "there is no king but King Jesus". As Garrett Lear reminded us, the enemies of freedom are still active today. In fact, the gathering did not occur on the green itself because of the current lockdown due to the uncaptured Boston Marathon terrorist situation. Will

we allow those enemies to take away our freedom? In the words of Garrett Lear...*Not on my watch!* You can see his speech in Lexington in it's entirety here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=b3E8UL7tTs8

and his website has many interesting videos and articles.

www.patriotpastor.org

Books

7 Men and the Secret of their Greatness



by Erik Mettaxes

The latest book by author, Erik Metaxas, who wrote the New York Times #1 bestseller and ECPA "Book of the Year", Bonhoeffer. Seven Men looks at the lives of seven truly great men in history and how their lives made them stand out in history. The seven men profiled are George Washington, William Wilberforce,

Eric Lidell, Deitrich Bonhoeffer, Jackie Robinson, John Paul II, and Charles Colson. Each of these men have endured struggles and challenges and have stood strong in circumstances that may have destroyed lesser men. These men provide a positive role model of what manhood is all about. This book helps to answer questions such as, "What is a man?", "What makes a man great?", and the question that most every man asks himself at one time or another, "How can I be great in my own life?" Erik Metaxas has written over 30 books, he is the voice of the radio commentary, Breakpoint, and was the keynote speaker at the 2012 National Prayer Breakfast in Washington. He was awarded the 2011 Canterbury Medal by the Beckett Fund for Religious Freedom. He has written for VeggieTales, Chuck Colson and the New York Times. This book is a must-read for men and boys

alike. (Women may be intrigued to read it as well.)

Joni & Ken

an Untold Love Story
by Joni Earekson Tada, Ken Tada and Larry Libby



The Tadas share their true story of their thirty year marriage and their love through sickness and health, like no other couple depicted in the media today. Joni became a quadriplegic, due to a diving accident, when she was seventeen. Since that day, she has been in a wheelchair and has only been able to move her head and neck. But even so, she became a great artist, using her mouth to hold her paintbrush, she has written over 40 books and recorded several musical albums. She is the founder of 'Joni and Friends' and has a ministry to provide wheelchairs to people in third-world countries. At thirty-

six, Joni felt that marriage probably wasn't in God's plan for her. Then Joni met Ken at church and after much time together and discussion, Ken felt that he could take care of her and they married. Not only did Joni have to deal with her quadriplegia, but she dealt with depression, chronic pain and breast cancer. Over the years, the relentless details involved in Joni's care began to wear on Ken. When they came to the end of their own strength, the only thing that pulled them through was God's grace. This is a beautiful story of commitment, sacrifice and faith.

Movies



Home Run
Home Run is a ne movie starring Scott Elrod, who plays baseball star, Cory Brand. Cory knows what it takes to win in the big leagues, but off the field, haunted by memories of his past, he find his life

spiraling out of control, resulting in a DUI and team suspension. Hoping to save Corey's career and reputation, his agent sends him back to the small town where he grew up to spend eight weeks in the town's only 12-step recovery program, Celebrate Recovery. Corey finds himself in a powerful journey of transformation and redemption. *Home Run* is a powerful reminder that with God, it is never too late...freedom is possible. *Home Run* started in movie theaters on April 19th. But if it has left the theaters by the time you are reading this, it will be well worth getting the DVD when it comes out.

Music

CDs
To Mom With Love
by various artists



To Mom, With Love is the perfect gift for

everyone who wants to show their love and the love of Christ to Mom this Mother's Day. She will love hearing her favorite artists (Casting Crowns, Third Day, Tenth Avenue North, Building 429) along with some of Christian music's most promising newcomers (Rhett Walker Band, Moriah Peters). Available on www.christianbooks.com

The Gospel Collection

by George Jones



The music world lost a favorite on April 26th. George Jones was well known for his distinctive voice and phasing, and his marriage to Tammy Wynette. This album, "*The Gospel Collection*" includes favorites like, "Amazing Grace", "Just a Closer Walk with Thee", and "In the Garden". This is a great CD to add to the collection of any Gospel music lover.

Upcoming Events

Faith & Family Day at the Seadogs Game



What's better than spending a sunny Spring day with your family watching a baseball game? How about going to see Brandon Heath in concert and the game all for one low price? Rock on with Brandon and then cheer on the Seadogs against the New Britain Rock Cats. Concert starts at 11:45am on May 4th at Hadlock Field, 271 Park Avenue, Portland, ME. Tickets are available at the Box Office or can be purchased online: www.ticketreturn.com/prod2/Buy.asp?EventID=85032

Free Community Dinner



Deering Center Community Church has partnered with the Wayside Food Program to provide a free community dinner each Thursday evening from 5:30 to 6:30. The dinner is available downstairs in the dining hall. Everyone is welcome. Deering Center Community Church is located at 4 Brentwood Street in Portland, on the corner of Stevens Avenue, next to Longfellow Elementary School.

Body Builders



On Saturday, May 4th at 8:00 there will be the monthly free breakfast for men in the community who meet to share their experiences, encourage each other, and enjoy great

fellowship, food, fun and down to earth problem solving messages. Sanford First Baptist Church, 905 Main Street - use the Kimble Street entrance.

Walk for Life



The Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center of Sanford is holding its annual Walk for Life on Saturday May 4. Registration is at 9 a.m. in Gowan Park on Main Street. This fundraiser is an easy 2 ½ mile walk. Alpha serves clients free of charge who are dealing with issues relating to pregnancy, parenting and post-abortion recovery. Support the Alpha Pregnancy Resource Center by calling the center at 207-324-5752 for pledge sheets and more information. www.alphapregnancyhelp.com

Laura Story in Concert

Singer/Songwriter, Laura Story will be in

Concert at the Old Orchard Pavilion in Old Orchard Beach on June 21st at 7:00pm.



Laura Story is best known for her songs, "Mighty to Save", "What a Savior" and the Grammy Award winning song, "Blessings". Tickets are \$14 in advance and \$19 the day of the show and can be purchased by calling the box office at 1-888-718-4253 or may be purchased online at the website: www.showclix.com/event/LauraStoryinConcert

Liberty Music Gathering



Liberty Chapel in Millton Mills, NH will have their Music Gatherings this month on April 13th and April 27th from 6:30 to 9:00PM. Join in the fun every other

Saturday night in the fellowship hall behind the church. Bring your instrument, if you play one or just come and enjoy the music provided by many local musicians.

NOTE from the Editor:

Please send any errors or omissions in this newsletter to Pam Andrews at peh56@aol.com. And PLEASE let me know if you have anything you would like to be included in a future issue. I would be more than happy to include articles by other writers or information about upcoming events at other churches or

Christian organiza- tions. The intended coverage area is southern Maine and eastern New Hampshire. If you know of someone that would like to receive *SonTimes*, send me their email address – with their permission, of course. If there is an interest in obtaining printed copies for your church or organization, I may investigate the possibility of getting donations or advertising to cover the printing costs. So spread the word about *SonTimes* and more importantly – spread the Good News of Jesus Christ!



*A sincere wish
to all
Moms.....*

May 12, 2013



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