



The Mustard Seed

Rehoboth Baptist Church Newsletter ~ July-August 2019



Rehoboth Baptist Church

Annual Family Fun Fair

August 10th ~ 11am to 3pm

*We have Games, Music,
Stories, Food, and Lots MORE!*
It's all FREE and All are WELCOME!

REBELS RESCUED!

To rescue rebels like us,



God didn't just throw us a rope.

He sent His Son Jesus!

Family Fun Fair Update

There are still jobs that need volunteers. Talk to Cindy Willians to see where we still need some help.

Most importantly keep telling people about the Family Fun Fair, invite as many as you can. (This has been the #1 reason people have attended in past years)

And even more important than that:

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!

The Authority of Scripture

BY DR. MARTYN LLOYD-JONES

*'Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth'
Ephesians 6.14*

There can be no doubt whatsoever that all the troubles in the Church to-day, and most of the troubles in the world, are due to a departure from the authority of the Bible. And,



alas, it was the Church herself that led in the so-called Higher Criticism that came from Germany just over a hundred years ago. Human philosophy took the place of revelation, man's opinions were exalted and Church leaders talked about 'the advance of knowledge and science', and 'the assured results' of such knowledge. The Bible then became a book just like any other book, out-of-date in certain respects, wrong in other

respects, and so on. It was no longer a book on which you could rely implicitly.

There is no question at all that the falling away, even in Church attendance, in this country is the direct consequence of the Higher Criticism. The man in the street says, 'What do these Christians know? It is only their opinion, they are just perpetrating something that the real thinkers and scientists have long since seen through and have stopped considering'. Such is the attitude of the man in the street! He does not listen any longer, he has lost all interest. The whole situation is one of drift; and very largely, I say, it is the direct and immediate outcome of the doubt that has been cast by the Church herself upon her only real authority. Men's opinions have taken the place of God's truth, and the people in their need are turning to the cults, and are listening to any false authority that offers itself to them.

We all therefore have to face this ultimate and final question: Do we accept the Bible as the Word of God, as the sole authority in all matters of faith and practice, or do we not? Is the whole of my thinking governed by Scripture, or do I come with my reason and pick and choose out of Scripture and sit in judgment upon it, putting myself and modern knowledge forward as the ultimate standard and authority? The issue is crystal clear. Do I accept Scripture as a revelation from God, or do I trust to speculation, human knowledge, human learning, human understanding and human reasons Or, putting it still more simply, Do I pin my faith to, and subject all my thinking to, what I read in the Bible? Or do I defer to modern knowledge, to modern learning, to what people think today, to what we know at this present time which was not known in the past? It is inevitable that we occupy one or the other of those two positions.

The Protestant position, as was the position of the early Church in the first centuries, is that the Bible is the Word of God. Not that it 'contains' it, but that it is the Word of God, uniquely inspired and inerrant. The Protestant Reformers believed not only that the Bible contained the revelation of God's truth to men, but that God safeguarded the truth by controlling the men who wrote it by the Holy Spirit, and that He kept them from error and from blemishes and from anything that was wrong. That is the traditional Protestant position, and the moment we abandon it we have already started on the road that leads back to one of the false authorities, and probably ultimately to Rome itself. In the last analysis it is the only alternative.

People will have authority; and they are right in so thinking. They need authority because they are bewildered; and if they do not find it in the right way they will take it in the wrong way. They can be persuaded even though they do not know the source of the authority; in their utter bewilderment they are ready to be persuaded by any authoritative statement. So that it comes to this, that we are back exactly where Christians were 400 years ago. The world talks about its advance in knowledge, its science, and so on, but actually we are going round in cycles, and we are back exactly where Christians were 400 years ago. We



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are having to fight once more the whole battle of the Protestant Reformation. It is either this Book, or else it is ultimately the authority of the Church of Rome and her 'tradition'! That was the great issue at the Protestant Reformation. It was because of what they found in the Bible that those men stood up against, and queried and questioned and finally condemned the Church of Rome. It was that alone that enabled Luther to stand, just one man, defying all those twelve centuries of tradition. 'I can do no other' he says, because of what he had found in the Bible. He could see that Rome was wrong. It did not matter that he was alone, and that all the big battalions were against him. He had the authority of the Word of God, and he judged the Church and her tradition and all else by this external authority.

We are back again in that exact position, and I am concerned about the matter, not only from the standpoint of the Church in general, but also from the standpoint of our own individual experiences. How can we fight the devil? How can we know how we are to live? How can we answer the things we hear, the things we read, and all the subtle suggestions of the devil? Where can I find this truth that I must gird on, as I put on all this armour of God? Where can I find it if I cannot find it in the Bible? Either my foundation is one of sand that gives way beneath my feet, and I do not know where I am, or else I stand on what W. E. Gladstone called 'The Impregnable Rock of Holy Scripture'.

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Family Fun Fair Preparations

August 10, 2019 11AM - 3 PM

1. PRAYER - The most important thing you can do. Something everyone can do. Pray for yourself, your involvement, your attitude, your witness. Pray for others who are involved. Pray for those who will come. Pray for good weather, safety and for everything to run smoothly.

2. PREPARE for conversation. Plant a thoughtful question in your mind, then think through possible answers and followup questions.

From Pastor Steve's Sunday sermon: What do you think is true in this world? Who is Jesus that I should listen to him? Followup questions: What do you mean by that? How did you come to that conclusion?

3. PREVIEW the schedule of events so that you can make suggestions to our guests and accompany them as an encourager.

- New this year: GaGa (look it up on the internet so you get an idea of the game)
- We'll start with a Bubble Parade to the teaching area.
- Instead of cupcake craft, this year it will be a pastry craft, a life preserver. Think how to tie

this to our theme, Rebels Rescued.

- The Bible story and puppet show will be separate events this year.
- Books on the literature table have been chosen to coordinate with the teaching: (A biography of John Newton and The World Created, Fallen, Redeemed and Restored.)

Proposed FFF Schedule:

11:20	Bubble Parade
11:25 - 11:50 AM	Bible Story <i>How We Broke God's Creation</i>
11:55 - 12:15 PM	Sack Races and Games (for children) What makes us both valuable & evil? (Discussion for Teens)
12:20 - 12:45 PM	Water Balloon Volleyball (for adults and teens)
12:45 - 1:15 PM	Live Music, Just Us4
1:15 - 1:30 PM	Puppet Show <i>The Rescue of the Rotten Wretch</i>
1:30 - 2:00 PM	Water Balloon Toss and Relays
2:15 - 2:45 PM	Bible Story <i>How We Broke God's Creation</i>



Mustard Seed ~ July 2019

Family Fun Fair Update.....	1
The Authority of Scripture.....	1
Family Fun Fair Preparations	2
God (and Missions Door) at Work in Sierra Leone: Kadija and Kashope Need Our Help (July 2019).....	3
QUÉBEC Pat and Joyce Murphy - JUNE 2019.....	4
SONG OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN.....	4
Confessing Sin Is Always Awkward, Sometimes Costly, and Absolutely Worth It.....	5
Thank You David Littlehale!.....	6
August 2019 Calendar	7
September 2019 Calendar.....	8

Visit us at: www.RehobothBaptistChurch.org

Ideas & Comments: pastor@rehobothbaptistchurch.com



The Mustard Seed

Rehoboth Baptist Church Newsletter ~ July-August 2019



Paul and Jan Bothwell are the missionaries featured for August. They are missionaries with Missions Door and serve as team leader for Church Movements in New England. Paul calls his ministry Train and Multiply or more recently, **From Here to There and Back Again**. Christians have arrived in Boston from around the world, formed a church here, see others brought to Christ and then send missionaries back to their home country. Read below about the Wellington's from Sierra Leone and their needs. Other churches under Paul's purview are Ethiopian, Liberian and Brazilian.

God (and Missions Door) at Work in Sierra Leone: Kadija and Kashope Need Our Help (July 2019)

Kadija and Kashope Wellington are missionaries in Sierra Leone (SL), part of the **Missions Door City Church Planting Team** that **Paul Bothwell** leads here in Greater Boston. They are examples of the **"From There to Here and Back"** people-movement that we are seeing more and more often now in God's worldwide missionary work.



Kadija and Kashope fled separately from the civil war in Sierra Leone in the 1990's. They met here in Boston. Kashope was a Christian. Kadija was Muslim but became a Christian here and they married. In 2003 they followed God's clear call to return to Sierra Leone to begin reconstructing the dismembered remains of the country. **"From There to Here and Back"**... with Team help through **Missions Door** from 2016 on.

In a most devastated part of Sierra Leone, Kadija set

up a primary school, formed a vocational center for war widows, and gathered youth for learning groups teaching healthy living and Life in Christ

Kashope planted a church, engaging with the community's needs for water, food, shelter, justice, peace - all in a mostly hostile Muslim environment. They ministered through the Cholera crisis and then the EBOLA crisis. Both Kadija and Kashope are heroic indigenous missionaries.

Then Kashope became critically ill with cancer, Kadija was fading from exhaustion, and they began closing parts of the ministry. Through Missions Door, they were able to come to Boston for medical care in November 2016, with Kashope near death. God **MIRACULOUSLY** gave life back to Kashope and Kadija.

They returned to SL in 2017 - to heartbreaking losses. Their house and church building in SL had been ransacked, a massive mudslide and flooding had ravaged the nearest city (Freetown), killing over 1000 people - family members, church leaders, friends.

However, through ALL that has occurred, they have maintained a ruthless trust in God's goodness and a demonstration of "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue;" as their habit of life.

But now, another great blow...

In January 2019, Kashope suffered a major stroke. Medical care is virtually non-existent in SL. He was taken to a medical clinic, received rudimentary care for a month; then was painfully transferred to the main hospital in Freetown, the capitol. He was discharged May 1; they had done all they could do for him. He was desperately in need of medical evacuation to Boston for better care and rehab, but was not, and still is NOT, able to travel. He went home to his village, to be cared for by Kadija, his wife, and a makeshift team of 24/7 caregivers doing their best - plus 2X/week the country's only Physical Therapist!

We, the missionary Team in Boston, are raising a "Love and Healing Care" offering to help cover the medical care costs there for a year, as we together assess what God might make possible next. Kadija writes: "Pastor, without your effort in helping us, it would be impossible for us. Just the supplies (adult diapers, cream to prevent bedsores, gloves), foods, equipment, and the many items we need to buy have bankrupted us. But we just give God the glory for the blessings and the favor we are getting from all of you. Please let all of them know I appreciate them very much. My heart cries with gratitude."

We can help.

\$10,000 has been raised to date!
Let's Give Ourselves Away for God!

Please contribute toward a \$15,000 gift to Help:

- é Medical Supplies and Equipment
- é Basic Caregiver Costs and Therapies
- é Solar fans & breathing equipment for the heat



Wat a gift to God's Missionary Work through Missions Door!



The Mustard Seed

Rehoboth Baptist Church Newsletter ~ July-August 2019



This will lift up God's Name and will demonstrate the Presence and Power of God dramatically in the surrounding Muslim culture.

You can give online through Missions Door. Go to <https://www.missionsdoor.org/missionary/wellington-kadijatu/donate>

**Thank you so much
- from Paul Bothwell, Team Leader**

QUÉBEC Pat and Joyce Murphy - JUNE 2019

GRADUATION 2019!

It was a special moment! The first graduate from the French seminary's (SEMBEQ) intensive pastoral training program called Immerse stepped onto the platform to receive his diploma. For the past four years, Ronald Hondermann has been preparing for Gospel ministry while, at the same time, serving in his church. Before he began the Immerse program, he was a faithful leader in his church in urban Montreal. Now he will serve full-time in the church he knows and loves.



The Immerse program is unique in that it is focused on transmitting the abilities that a developing pastor needs to serve Christ and His church.

We are able to invest in the lives of faithful men like Ronald because of your generous giving and faithful prayer. As we come to the end of another year of leadership training, we once again say "thank you" for all that you have done to enable us to serve in Quebec.

Pat and Joyce Murphy

SONG OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

Stephen P Carlone

The sun has not witnessed days we have not known,
Nor could labyrinthine evening hide the comfort
And betrayal of a kiss. The lips of the needy filled
With all idolatry and measured by the eyes of angels,
Come to embrace the implicit vehicle of suffering.

The immodest blush at the pale of such hope, as
Judas shamed, they founder in pouring spikenard,
Tears of contrition, and toweling hair. Still poor fishers
Come, breaking bread of covenant, drink wine drawn from
The cask of all eternity, till now the well becomes a flood.

Because the heart that longs, for that which cannot be
Contained - the gift of vision is soon shaken by the gift
Of having seen - finds faith and love is a poetry of
Stones, on mountains of shoeless innocence, would be
Prophets miss: from abject dust a profligate holiness.

Spring 2006 - Penwood Review

Life is Hard: Money is tight. The schedule is crammed. Work is overwhelming. The list could go on and on and on. Let's be honest—life can get stressful. And when you find yourself stressed (which will happen), lean into Scripture. Feel free to use these verses as a starting point.

1. Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.
– James 1:2-4
2. Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful.
– John 14:27
3. Commit your activities to the Lord, and your plans will be established.
– Proverbs 16:3
4. I called to the Lord in distress; the Lord answered me and put me in a spacious place. The Lord is for me; I will not be afraid. What can a mere mortal do to me?
– Psalm 118:5-6
5. If I say, "My foot is slipping," your faithful love will support me, Lord. When I am filled with cares, your comfort brings me joy.
– Psalm 94:18-19
6. Now the mind-set of the flesh is death, but the mind-set of the Spirit is life and peace.
– Romans 8:6
7. Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
– Philippians 4:6-7
8. Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way but not crushed; we are perplexed but not in despair; we are persecuted but not abandoned; we are struck down but not destroyed.
– 2 Corinthians 4:7-9
9. Trouble and distress have overtaken me, but your commands are my delight.
– Psalm 119:143
10. "Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take up my yoke and learn from me, because I am lowly and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."
– Matthew 11:28-30

Art Rainer

***if we confess our sins, he is faithful
and just to forgive us our sins and
to cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.***

1 John 1:9 (ESV)



The Mustard Seed

Rehoboth Baptist Church Newsletter ~ July-August 2019



Confessing Sin Is Always Awkward, Sometimes Costly, and Absolutely Worth It

I sat alone in the church for 15 minutes. The acquaintance who had invited me was nowhere to be found. Finally, he walked in with his fiancée. In jest, I told him he was a bad example of what a godly church member should be.



“Yeah, my fiancée and I had a huge fight,” he said. “I’ll tell you about it later.”

I felt the blood drain from my face. I barely knew him! Why was he being so vulnerable?

UPHOLDING A REPUTATION

Growing up in a traditional Asian American church, I was taught the importance of reputation. I was told to avoid confessing struggles and sins. Because my dad was respected in church ministry, if I shared my sins with others, it would taint my parents’ image. So I struggled with lust, pride, and depression—alone.

One of the most effective yet elusive methods of destroying a man is to turn him into a hypocrite. It’s easy to see the vileness of a murderer, adulterer, or demon-worshipper. But hypocrisy is a silent killer. Many Christians claim to be willing to lose their lives but can’t risk their own reputations. We’re more preoccupied with others thinking we’re like Christ than actually being like him. The irony is that God sees us exactly as we are. He sees the comprehensive depravity of our sins, even the ones we rationalize away.

Reputation is a dam that blocks living water from flowing into our souls. It keeps us from confessing our sins. But in Christ, God has been gracious to us, which means we don’t have to prove ourselves. His throne of judgment has turned into a throne of grace! We can boldly look at the holy, righteous God and run to him in our time of need (Hebrews 4:14–16).

Nonetheless, confessing sin to one another is hard. But we must remember two things: Scripture instructs us, and God’s grace helps us. Consider these words from James: “Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed” (5:16).

Consistent Christian living consists of consistent confession. So how do we get better at this distinctly Christian practice?

1. Confess to your fellow church members.

God has designed the church to be a community that’s committed to one another: “And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching” (Heb. 10:24–25).

Committed churchgoers have a mutual responsibility for one another’s relationship with Jesus. When this responsibility is made explicit through church membership, the church grows into deep covenant

community.

If you’re a member of a church, then that church is stuck with you, warts and all! And you’re committed to them as well. Your primary accountability is not with a parachurch group or a godly mentor but with the church body. This kind of relationship enables confession.

2. Be specific but not explicit.

Confessions can be littered with vague Christian generalities that do not expose sin for what it is. After the Samaritan woman meets Jesus, she runs into the town exclaiming, “He told me everything I ever did” (John 4:39).

Be specific in your confessions. Don’t just say that you “gave into lust,” but say that you viewed pornography the previous night and acted on it. Don’t just say that you’re struggling with envy, but share what lies you were thinking and believing. Don’t just say your marriage is rough, but share the specific difficulties and arguments.

And yet, don’t be explicit. Don’t say things in a way that would entice sin for others. Confession is meant to expose the ugliness of sin, not to recklessly tempt others into sin. Use discernment and wisdom, and be willing to speak honestly about boundaries as well as sins.

3. Embrace the awkward.

Confessing sin is uncomfortable. It should be because sin should never be comfortable. Even so, making the leap into confession can seem daunting. There’s no shortcut to ease into confession. Just do it. Embrace the awkward.

And remember: confessing sin isn’t just for your benefit, it’s for the recipients of the confession as well. I remember visiting a couple in the church who opened the door saying, “Come on in! We’re having a fight right now.” They spent a short time explaining the details of the fight, then “timed-in” and continued the argument. Later, they “timed-out” and asked me to share any potential sins being committed or insights that could be helpful. I was only 19, but I was discipled into thinking maturely about marriage and reconciliation.

CONCLUSION

It’s true. Confession could cost your reputation. It could result in an awkward conversation. But freedom in the gracious, holy light of God is priceless.

By John Lee

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The Mustard Seed

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1 John 1:5-10 (ESV)

Walking in the Light

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Thank You David Littlehale!

Dave has served us many years and in many ways. One of those services was to faithfully publish our Mustard Seed newsletter, month by month and year after year. This has been no small task!

While Dave continues to serve as our church treasurer and our web master, he has decided to step out of the role of editing & publishing the Mustard Seed.

Let me be the first (of many) to thank you David for your long & excellent labors for us on the Mustard Seed!



If you have any ideas for how we should utilize our newsletter moving forward or if you have any interest in helping with the publishing of the Mustard Seed, please speak to Pastor Kitchen.

Also, any ideas for content, for the time being, can be sent to Pastor Kitchen:

Pastor@rehobothbaptistchurch.org

RBCSec@rehobothbaptistchurch.org

Rehoboth Baptist Church

August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3 8 am - First Principles 10 am - Visitation
4 8 : 20 a m - Elder./Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0: 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service	5 Marc & Jenn Brochu	6 7 pm - Missions	7 Brian & Linda Azevedo 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	8	9 Ken Juckett 10am - FFF Set up day	10 Bob & Karen Price 11 am - Family Fun Fair
11 8 : 20 a m - Elder./Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0: 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service	12 Brian Azevedo	13 Tony & Loraine Belcher	14 Dan & Christine Guest Stephen & Patricia 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	15	16	17 8 am - First Principles
18 Sarah Kitchen 8 : 20 a m - Elder./Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0: 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service	19	20 David & Diane Sarah Gendron 7 pm - Elders & Deacons	21 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	22	23	24 Ken & Jeanie Juckett
25 8 : 20 a m - Elder./Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0: 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service	26	27	28 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	29 Karen Price	30	31 8 am - First Principles

Rehoboth Baptist Church

September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>8 : 2 0 a m - Elder/ Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0 : 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Wendy Soares 7 pm - Deaconess 7 pm - Missions</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7 pm - Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Mark Phelps</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8 : 2 0 a m - Elder/ Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0 : 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7 pm - Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Caleb Kitchen Cindy Kitchen</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8 am - First Principles 10 am - Visitation</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8 : 2 0 a m - Elder/ Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0 : 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7 pm - Elders & Deacons</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7 pm - Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Paul Schneider</p>
<p>22</p> <p>John & Kathy Frye</p> <p>8 : 2 0 a m - Elder/ Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0 : 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Mary Wick</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>David & Elaine 7 pm - Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8 am - First Principles 11 am - Church Picnic</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8 : 2 0 a m - Elder/ Deac. Prayer meeting 9 a m - Sun.School 1 0 : 30 am - Worship 6 p m - Evening Service</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Elaine Costanzo Jennie Turquist</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>