

# Rhode Island Christian Bulletin

"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 3:11, NKJV)

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**FREE**

## Welcoming Jesus this Christmas

By James Moriello

For many, the Christmas season truly is the most wonderful time of the year, because it focuses them on the things that truly matter in life; faith, family, and friends. For other people, it is a bittersweet time filled with remembrances of departed family members, but the good memories are there as God's good gift to them. For still others, it is a spiritually empty time characterized by worldly behaviors and worldly materialism. Regardless of which of these statements describe you, you must decide if you will welcome Jesus Christ into your life today, throughout the Christmas season, and beyond. Consider Mary, the mother of Jesus in His humanity, and her response in anticipating the arrival of her Savior--God the Son Incarnate. "And Mary said: 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior'" (Luke 1:46-47). Behold the angels exclaiming at His birth: "Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men" (Luke 2:14). Christmas was not the end of it for the shepherds, who "returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen" (Luke 2:20). Is there room at the inn of your heart for the Son of God and the peace and inner joy that He brings? Will you welcome Jesus this Christmas?

## Christmas Traditions Around the World (Compiled by RICB Staff)

Many families and communities in Rhode Island have various Christmas traditions, such as setting out the nativity scene at a given time, attending candlelight or midnight Christian services, and lighting Advent candles to celebrate the hope, peace, joy, and love that Christ brings to their lives. It is interesting to read of some of the traditions that are observed around the world.

There is a tradition reported to be practiced in the Czech Republic of setting a place at the table for Baby Jesus, who is also said to be the One who delivers presents (not Santa Claus). "For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).

In Italy, the main exchange of gifts does not take place until January 6th, which is said to be the day that the wise men visited Baby Jesus. They have it right that the wise men were not eyewitnesses to His birth. Contrary to what is often depicted in our nativity scenes, Jesus was born in a stable, but the wise men visited Him later on in a house (Luke 2:7; Matthew 2:11).

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## True Freedom

By Gerard Lachance

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit" (Romans 8:1).

As I was growing up, my friends were as mischievous as I was. I don't know how they were reprimanded by their parents, but my parents would always say "God will punish you for that". As I grew older, my naughty behavior became criminal, i.e., Assault and Battery, Drunk and Disorderly, Assault on a Police Officer, ad infinitum. So, needless to say, in my mind I was never going to be good enough to go to Heaven! I felt really condemned to go to Hell. I was brought up to believe that God only punishes. I had a punishing God. No one ever taught me: *(continued on page 5)*

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**Sunday Worship 10 AM**

**Friday Bible Study 7 PM**

**Christmas Day Service 10 AM**

## **Wisdom for Women**

**By Susan Moriello**

*"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name." (Psalm 100:4)*



"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Over 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ was born, raised by earthly parents, and began His public ministry on earth about the age of 30. Over the next three years, He taught, performed miracles and healings, and offered grace to all. He knew of the suffering to come, yet He still faithfully and willingly obeyed His heavenly Father. Our sins were put on the sinless Son of God (2 Corinthians 5:14-21). On the third day, Jesus arose from the grave and was seen by many witnesses. After 40 more days, He ascended to the Father, and the promised Holy Spirit came down to inhabit His people (Acts 1:3,8; 1 Corinthians 3:16). Can you imagine all of these things? What an amazing story, and it is true, being testified to in God's Word to you, the Holy Bible (2 Timothy 3:16)! Some desire the things of this world too much: more money, a larger house, a newer car, and so forth. Are your prayers a list of 'I wants' when they should be prayers for needs? "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). Why do we have such greedy hearts when God has provided for all who approach Him in faith through Jesus an eternal home in heaven in which there are no more tears, death, sorrow, and pain (Revelation 21:4)? Here is my challenge to you: Will you give more generously of kindness, love, and grace not just this Christmas season but all year long? Consider the grace, love, compassion, and forgiveness modeled by Jesus as an example for you. Will you meet the challenge? Until next time, Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas! Hallelujah! Praise Immanuel, God with us (Matthew 1:23)!

### **Rhode Island Christian Bulletin**

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## **One Solitary Life**

**By James Allen Francis**

**(Submitted By Tanya Hay)**

*"Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone" (Ephesians 2:20)*

I was given a framed copy of this poem a few Christmas' ago by my dear friend Tina. I really love it and wanted to share it (Tanya):

He was born in an obscure village, the son of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village, where he worked in a carpenter's shop until He was thirty. Then for three years He became a wandering preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He never visited a big city. He never travelled two hundred miles from the place where he was born. He did none of those things one usually associates with greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. He was only thirty-three when the tide of public opinion turned against Him. His friends ran away. He was turned over to his enemies and went through a mockery of a trial. He was executed by the state. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race and the leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that One Solitary Life.

## **What is Beauty**

**By Gerry Bettencourt**

(Abridged from the Full Text)

My mind goes back to July 10, 1991 as I read about another instance of faithfulness. Her name was Jackie and she had become paralyzed due to a stroke in her brain. You have only to read the log, which her husband had kept, recording his wife's progress. Hard as it has been for them, he is so pleased when he sees progress in her condition and her strides for improvement. With this love she improves. Their love has somehow bonded them even in their circumstance. Did they pass the test? Did they need the test to prove their **(continued on page 3)**

# Family Page

## Thanksgiving/Giving Thanks

By Tanya Hay

*"This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it."* (Psalm 118:24)

With Thanksgiving around the corner, I like to reflect on my many blessings. I'm always amazed when I hear people say 'I don't have anything'. Sure, not everyone is driving around in a Rolls Royce or living in a mansion but those things are surely not necessary to live a happy and fulfilled life. Material possessions do not define what we really need to live a physically, emotionally, and spiritually full life. Look within and you will see that you have so much to be thankful for.

Let's think about it...Really. Did you wake up today with more health than sickness? Give thanks. Can you see? If so, look around you, look up to the skies: Each and every day God paints the canvas with a new scene. Look in the mirror. You are unique and special. Can you hear? Listen to the birds singing, children laughing, or yourself speaking. It's miraculous. Are you breathing? Take delight in another day; make it a good one. Smile. Say 'I love you'. Forgive. Today is a gift; that is why it's called the 'present'.

Remember to focus on the positives and the blessings that God has given you. Focus on what you have and forget about what you don't have. If it's in God's plan for you, it will come. Think about yourself, your life, your children, your parents, your friends, and just the world around you in general. God is good. When you stop and reflect on your life, I am sure that you will realize that God has given you many blessings! Rejoice and be glad in it for today is a gift from God! "In everything, give thanks" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

**Father  
And  
Mother  
I  
Love  
You**



**(*'What is Beauty', continued from page 2*)** faithfulness on Jay's part? I think not. It only deepened their commitment to each other. Proverbs 20:6: "Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, but who can find a faithful man?" This is only one example in the lives of men and women that call for, not superficial beauty, but a self-sacrificing beauty drawn from a wealth of experiences and circumstances, that have strengthened faithfulness and given birth to true beauty.

Does beauty need to be so superficial in a society that is so

concerned on our physical appearance that something is missed in the depth of that inner beauty that can be of so much more value? We are changing daily, either through life circumstances, or just age. Developing illness can change an outward man but can never distort inner beauty. In fact, it can enhance it, with the beauty of a person's character showing through.

The reason: physical beauty does not necessarily convey value, whereas character does. "Charm is deceitful, and beauty is passing" (Proverbs 31:30). Character, as well as integrity, are developed when a person has an inward beauty that doesn't go away with age or circumstance. The inward beauty is flawless. Must we be distracted by our media or circumstances, or can we gain a true grasp on real BEAUTY?

**Editor's Note:** My friend and sister in Christ, Gerry, is a gifted evangelist to children, as well as a gifted singer. I had the privilege of serving together with her in the Rhode Island State Prison. She faithfully serves the children every other week in visiting two of the projects in Fall River, Massachusetts.

## **Cross the Country: Standing up for God, By Dane Walters**

***"For I proclaim the name of the LORD: Ascribe greatness to our God." (Deuteronomy 32:3)***

There is rarely a week that goes by that we don't hear about a town, a high school, a historical display or some symbol of Christianity under attack by atheists. In our country today, it seems Christianity is under attack from the government, the ACLU and others. They are trying to remove all reference to God from our nation. For many years the religious community has sat back and said nothing. This has emboldened the anti-Christian groups even more. NOW is the time for Christians to stand up and be counted. We can make a difference.

The "Cross the Country" campaign began when one town, under attack by the atheists, stood up and said they will no longer stand by silently and have their rights taken away. The project stems from an incident that happened in 2008 in Frankenmuth, Michigan. An atheist who resides in Frankenmuth complained to the town council about two crosses displayed on a bridge. Fearing legal pressure, the town removed the crosses. Emboldened, the atheist next complained to the council about the Lutheran symbol on the city shield, which had been placed there to honor its founders. The other residents of the town decided they had had enough. Hundreds of town residents made their opinion known by placing small crosses in their front yards. With that show of community unity the atheist dropped his complaint. The crosses still stand in the town for all to see the large number of Christians in the town. It is time for Christians everywhere to stand up and be counted because it will make a difference.

The River Church of Mifflintown, PA is helping carry the "Cross the Country" campaign and spread the word to churches throughout the country. Our involvement began when William Kern of the River Church came across the "Cross the Country" story while at a garage in Mill Hall, Clinton County, PA. He noticed a stack of crosses in the store area and inquired what was up with the crosses. The owner told him a local church was giving them out for free. He also mentioned the story of the "Cross the Country" campaign was on the fliers on the counter. The Bald Eagle Church had circulated five hundred crosses as of that time. William felt God was telling him to present this to his Life Group leaders Ron and Sue Rickenbaugh. The Life Group decided to take on the project and build the crosses and present the campaign to the Church. The church began the campaign on Palm Sunday April 1, 2012 with an announcement in Church. The Life Group built two hundred and eighty sturdy wooden crosses, two feet tall with a foot long cross piece and painted white. No one had a clue how the campaign would go over in the small rural County of 25,000 residents in the middle of Pennsylvania. Members of the Life Group submitted articles to the local newspapers along with doing interviews on a couple radio stations telling the story of the "Cross the Country" campaign. Several businesses throughout the County have helped make the crosses available to the public. Even though it has only been five and a half months since announcing the campaign, the Life Group is still having a tough time keeping up with the orders for the free crosses. As of this writing in the middle of September, the Life Group has built and given out over 2,600 crosses. There are also other area churches that are now building crosses for the community. As you travel anywhere through our county you will notice lots of crosses. For Christians throughout the country this will be a non-confrontational way to show not only their faith in God but also to let the atheists know we surround them. Christians are no longer afraid to stand up and be counted.

***Editor's Note:*** We in Woonsocket are not alone in the battle against the so-called 'atheists'. In their zeal to be free from religion, these folks infringe upon the right to freedom of religion. No matter what lengths men may go to in order to avoid accountability to God, such efforts are doomed to failure. "And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). Nevertheless, it is the duty of the Christian to proclaim his or her faith, offering the message of hope to a sinful world.

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen." (Matthew 28:18-20)

## Compassion in Action on Burnside Avenue (RICB News Service)

Back in August, the groundbreaking ceremony for the new transitional housing unit to be located at 96 Burnside Avenue, Woonsocket, took place. The groundbreaking was witnessed by those non-profit leaders involved in advocating for the homeless population in the city and state. Many elected officials including Mayor Fontaine and both state senators were also in attendance. Best of all, the Lord Jesus Christ was glorified in their midst. The role played by Harvest Community Church of Woonsocket in advocating for the homeless people in Woonsocket was noted by both believers and unbelievers who stood by. Pastor Gene Giguere of Harvest observed that "they really seemed to see Harvest as a church that genuinely loves the people of the community it serves. And, in that, God was glorified". Harvest has operated a shelter for homeless men for several years during the winter months to help deal with the growing number of homeless in the city, thereby showing their faith by their works.

### True Freedom, continued from page 1

"For whom the Lord loves He chastens" (Heb. 12:6).

One day, I was just thumbing through my bible when the Epistle of Paul to the Romans caught my eye. The four words in Verse 2 of Chapter 8, "has made me free", jumped up at me. So I was going to investigate further. At the Bible studies I inquired about how I could have "a life in Christ Jesus"! How can I "be made free from the law of sin and death"? I had no idea whatsoever that I was enslaved by sin and spiritual death. The two reasons I felt like I did – low self-esteem and self-condemnation. As I continued to go to Bible Study, I did find out how I could become free from this terrible wrath of God. And I also learned that God wasn't only about chastisement but also Perfect "Love". My Christian friends showed me the Gospel of John. "For God so "Loved" the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16). Well, I'm a resident of this world, so Jesus in this Gospel is talking not only to me, but to everyone who reads or hears these words that were spoken by Jesus.

Today, I have the Promise of Eternal Life and I will not perish because I have made Jesus my Lord and Savior. I have confessed my sin to Him and trust Him with my life, and God sealed this promise with His Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13-14). God in Christ is in me and I in Him. The Spirit of God dwells within me (1 Corinthians 3:16). I no longer have low self-esteem or self-condemnation. But I do have the fruits of the Spirit which are: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another" (Gal. 5:25, 26). Amen to that!

**Food for thought** (Submitted By Tanya Hay): God gave us two ears and one mouth. I think that means that we should listen twice as much as we speak!

## I am a Christian

(poem originally by Carol Wimmer, later adapted on the net, submitted by Brian Violette)

When I say that "I am a Christian," I am not shouting that "I am clean living." I'm whispering "I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say "I am a Christian," I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible but God believes I am worth it.

When I say "I am a Christian," I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not holier than thou. I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!

## Notable and Quotable

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (Jesus, John 14:6)

"Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil." (The Lord, Isaiah 5:20a)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." (Paul, 2 Corinthians 5:17a)

## Life Application Page

***The following is an excerpt from the companion paper to the sermon 'A Warning to Drifters', by James Moriello, Pastor of Firm Foundation Christian Church, Woonsocket, RI. A drifter is someone who either wanders from the faith, or wanders without true faith in God.***

### **Seven causes of spiritual drifting:**

- 1) Selfishness: "The backslider in heart will be filled with his own ways, but a good man will be satisfied from above" (Proverbs 14:14). "Backslider" is simply another word for spiritual drifter. Is it all about the 'great I think I am' or is about the 'Great I Am' for you?
- 2) Rebellious Spirit: "In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25). The reason people reject godly leadership and a Bible-based local church is because they do not want to be accountable. This rebellion is really against God, who is The Spiritual Leader.
- 3) Evil Associations: "Do not be deceived: Evil company corrupts good habits" (1 Corinthians 15:33). Your mom was right. The company you keep really does affect you whether you realize it or not. Keep godly company.
- 4) Love of Worldly Things: "for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world" (2 Timothy 4:10a-b). Many times the things of the world look appealing to us. In the end, they will lead to destruction if we put our faith in them. Learn from your past mistakes and repent, changing mind and focus upwards instead.
- 5) Shallow Faith: "But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away" (Luke 8:13). Perhaps the commitment to Christ was never sincere and salvation never occurred, or there was an expectation that there would be no trouble upon accepting Jesus. Maybe what is being held back is trust because of a fear of losing control.
- 6) Lack of Spiritual Discernment: "To know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding" (Proverbs 1:2). How do we learn to discern God's will? By reading the Good Book for ourselves, thereby learning to discern truth from error.
- 7) Laziness: "But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Hebrews 5:14). The point here is that those who are too lazy to look into spiritual things and make the effort will go without blessings.

### **Five remedies for spiritual drifting:**

- 1) Resolve to grow up spiritually: "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things" (1 Corinthians 13:11). No more games.
- 2) Seek and hold fast to the truth: "Buy the truth, and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding" (Proverbs 23:23). Will you continue to trust in and live in lies? There is a better way.
- 3) Follow Christ's example: "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked" (1 John 2:6). Talk the talk and walk the walk.
- 4) Participate in the local church: "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" (Hebrews 10:24-25a). Resolve to make public worship a priority. Then participate in it. You have much to offer.
- 5) Make God's Word a priority: "But His delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night" (Psalm 1:2). You have many bad habits. Here is a good one. It's hard to drift when we are holding God's truth with us wherever we go.

## Testimony to the Greatness of our God

*"One generation shall praise your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts. I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works. Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, And I will declare Your greatness. They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, and shall sing of Your righteousness." (Psalm 145:4-7)*

### **The Angel Maker's Club** *By Diane Peterson*

I was a new bride with all the joy and wishes that came with it. I remember dreaming of a white picket fence with children around. When seven years came to pass, I realized I needed to become proactive in my quest for a child. I went to see a fertility specialist. On the morning I was to meet with him, I suffered my first miscarriage. I recall a big tear rolling down this doctor's face as he told me there was nothing he could do. Then I conceived again. My experience with an HMO was quite different. At 37 years of age I was treated as run of the mill, happens all the time, no big deal. Well, it was to me! I lost that one too! My husband and I moved from Massachusetts to Rhode Island to be closer to my aging mother. I conceived for the third time on my husband's birthday (March 31st), and went into labor exactly nine months from that very day (December 31st). She was so big, fat, and healthy that a C-section was required to deliver her. Her name is Faith Marie.

My wonderful boss and his wife had suffered the same fate. I knew exactly how they felt. Well wishers saying "It's God's way" or "It wasn't right" meant to appease, but fell far short. I felt the need to do something. Sitting down, pen in hand, I asked God for enlightenment. I scribbled furiously as if time was of the essence. Even though I never gazed upon two of my children's little faces, God knew. Jesus promises: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). He blessed me with peace as I wrote. And so came the title of my poem **"The Angel Maker's Club"**, which I shared with my boss, and now share with you:

*There once was a little voice inside our Dear Lord's head.  
It spoke to Him, "Pick me, Pick me" it implored and said.  
"You know that you will make them sad and they won't understand".*

*"I Know, I Know! Won't they be glad once they know our plan?"*

*"So my little cherub, What is it that you seek?"*

*"To play my trumpet loud and strong, heralding all I meet."*

*God laughed and smiled, for it was very true,*

*The voice sounding just like that, He already knew.*

*So on that night He placed a little beating heart*

*And all the love for both of you that He could impart.*

*There is a special place for us up above.*

*It's proudly called "The Angel Maker's Club."*

### **The Switch from Darkness to Light**

**By Jody DiLazzaro**

I have been attending Firm Foundation Christian Church now for about three years. From the first day I came to the church, God used Pastor James to impress upon me how important it is to read Scripture. He helped me to understand that all my problems can be solved through the gift of salvation. I could know that Jesus the Son of God died on the cross, and that my sins can be forgiven by God. And if I accepted Jesus Christ sincerely in my heart, then I would be saved from the fires of hell, and have eternal life in heaven.

Many times in my life I have faced major adversity, and in the past I had always tried to solve these issues by worldly ways. The solutions to my problems consisted of sex, food, alcohol, drugs, and pornography. I did not know any better because I was not saved. I did not know that Jesus is the One who is the answer to all my questions and problems. All I had to do is first to be saved, and then be baptized. "He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16). Now I need to seek God daily. The Bible says: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33). What an awesome promise!

I do my best to do God's will on a daily basis. I always need to remember that I live in this world, but I am not of this world (John 17:14-18). By having my eyes set on God, I can be open to His holy blessings (Psalm 25:15). I no longer need to seek comfort in worldly solutions, because I know I can find the truth written in God's Word, the Holy Bible.

"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31b-32).

The Bible says that angels are "ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation" (Hebrews 1:14).

## **Euthanasia, By James Moriello**

The 2012 Massachusetts ballot question on euthanasia has catapulted euthanasia to the top of the radar screen. Euthanasia is the act of assisting someone in hastening death. It is incumbent upon Christians, particularly Christian leaders, to proclaim God's position as revealed in the Bible upon such moral matters. Although the Word of God does not specifically mention euthanasia, we have enough Scripture evidence to stand against it. We will approach our topic from two directions. First, euthanasia is a 'sanctity of life' issue. Second, euthanasia is a practical denial of the sovereignty of God.

First, euthanasia is a 'sanctity of life' issue. It stands alongside two other murderous practices; abortion and infanticide. The Bible is clear that human life begins at conception and ends at physical death (Psalm 139:13-16; Hebrews 9:27). Any position that favors one of these three practices and opposes another is inconsistent. "You shall not murder" (Exodus 20:13). The commandment is based upon the fact that every life is sacred in the eyes of God (Genesis 1:27). There is no such thing as a life without value, and no justification for killing for convenience, however well intentioned one may be.

Second, euthanasia is a practical denial of the sovereignty of God. There is "a time to die" (Ecclesiastes 3:2), and the number of our "days are determined" (Job 14:5). "It is appointed for men to die once" (Hebrews 9:27). These Scriptures teach that God has appointed the day of our death, and any effort to hasten that, be it through suicide or 'mercy killing', is an attempt to usurp God's sovereignty, and in opposition to His will and purposes. I stand with the majority of Christian ethicists that ordinary means should always be used to preserve life, but extraordinary means are not obligatory to prolong life when nature is taking its course. However, the government should never be in a position of authority to prevent the use of any means; ordinary or extraordinary.

Let us beware that we do not go further down the slippery slope that we have already slid down in accepting abortion and infanticide by accepting euthanasia in any form. Once we devalue some lives, who will make the judgment as to which lives are worth living and which lives are not? We need only look to history to see where this can potentially take a society: Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler.

**We wish you a bountiful  
Thanksgiving, a blessed  
Christmas, and a peaceful  
New Year!**

## **New Year's Resolutions**

**By RICB Staff**

Here are some suggestions based on Scripture that will not steer you wrong:

- 1) Put God first in your life (Exodus 20:3).
- 2) Pray daily (Philippians 4:6).
- 3) Get involved in furthering the Gospel by finding something that needs to be done, and do it (Ecclesiastes 9:10).
- 4) Stop making excuses and obey the command to worship the Lord in church (Hebrews 10:24-25).
- 5) Seek peace with all people, resolving petty disputes (Romans 13:18).
- 6) Read God's Word every day, and commit to reading the whole Bible this year (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- 7) Forgive your loved ones, and reconcile with them if possible. You don't know how much more time you may have to do so (Ephesians 4:32).
- 8) Do not go to bed angry with your spouse or your children (Ephesians 4:26).

### **Firm Foundation Christian Church: About Us**

Rhode Island Christian Bulletin is a publication of Firm Foundation Christian Church, Woonsocket, Rhode Island. We are an independent gospel preaching and teaching church. Our mission is to promote the Gospel of Jesus Christ by any and all means possible, as the Lord allows.

Please come join us Sunday morning at 10 AM for worship service, or Friday evening at 7 PM for Bible Study. We meet at 84 Cumberland Street (St. Ann Arts and Cultural Center) in Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

You can contact us at 401-765-0107 or by emailing us at [firmfoundationri@verizon.net](mailto:firmfoundationri@verizon.net). We also encourage you to visit our website [www.firmfoundationri.com](http://www.firmfoundationri.com) and listen to a sermon or read an article or topic that interests you.

"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11, NKJV)