Every Excuse Works

When it comes to faithfulness to the assembly some reasons are valid. Illness, the demands of work, family crisis, even travel for vacation are all proper excuses for not being present on Sundays or Wednesdays.

Lately, however, it seems that for some brethren anything that passes for an excuse is reason enough to skip worship or Bible study. The top non-excuses that I've seen and heard recently:

1. "I don't feel like it."

The Bible says that the flesh and the spirit are at war with each other so that neither can always do what it "feels" like – Gal. 5:17. The body rarely feels like making time to worship God, this is its natural state and to give in to this is to lose the battle of the flesh over the spirit. If you wait until you "feel like it" you might never come to church.

2. "I'm too tired."

This can be a legitimate excuse in this stressful world. But I've noticed that when people review their schedules they find that they're not too tired for their kids' sports or watching TV late into the evening, just too tired to go to church. Perhaps if we understood that spiritual life is a much higher priority than entertainment or hobbies we'd make time to rest so we could be fresh for worship.

3. "I'm not into...church."

The problem here is that if you're not into church then you won't be into heaven either. Rev. 21:9 tells us that the church is the "bride of the lamb", the group that will be with Christ in heaven. To reject the church is to reject Christ and His reward.

I notice that our attendance is down lately and I suspect that it's because we've allowed every excuse to become a valid excuse to be absent. We can fool ourselves and sidestep the preacher but God knows whether you should be here or not.

by Mike Mazzalongo via BibleTalk.tv

Advance Warning

Sin will take you farther than you ever wanted to go, keep you longer than you ever wanted to stay, and cost you more than you ever wanted to pay. -- Anonymous

Hebrews 12:17

For you know that even afterwards, when he [Esau] desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears.

It's easy to travel the broad road, speeding along, enjoying the pleasures of the way. It's the popular road: many others are on it. The real problem is where the road ends.

Matthew 7:13-14

"Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find

NEWSLETTER

Apr. 24, 2016

Mark Dailey, evangelist (716) 754-2752

Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:45 AM

Sunday AM Worship

* Sunday PM Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday PM Bible Class 7:00 PM

church of Christ

1121 N. Military Rd. Niagara Falls, NY 14304 (716) 283-1214

lasallechurchofchrist.org (under construction)

^{*} There is no PM service on the 5th Sunday of the month.



We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a Visitor Card (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are obviously not expected to give but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

11:00 AM

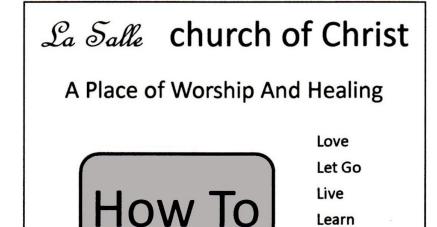
There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

Please silence cell phones and any other noise making devices during worship.

Learn

Lead

Laugh





Phil Sanders

Condolences: To family, friends, and loved ones of **Ed Fees**. He fell last Sunday and went to ECMC for observation. He was conscious and alert but had some bleeding on the brain that the doctors wanted to watch. He passed away Wednesday night. No further info.

Prayer List In our prayers let's praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.

Let's Keep These Folks In Our Prayers: Joe Pitts, Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Red & Goldie Crow, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Tony and Egla Grana, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Willow, Darlene Reed, Leo & Jeanne Johns, Butts & Edie Sumner, Rick & Fran Fees, Chris Highway, Keith & Glory Marten, Bev McArthur, Candi Butcher, and Cheryl Mellott.

Updates

Darlene Reed had surgery on her right eye Apr. 20.

Ron Cameron is scheduled to have surgery on his hand May 2.

Bev McArthur thanks everyone for their prayers and support. She started outpatient PT this past Monday.

Noah and Logan Bennett have both been under the weather.

Renee Kinney is still dealing with cancer but she recently had a test done and the fluid from her lungs is cancer free.

George Kohlbacher: Let's continue to remember him in our prayers. George & Louise were both here yesterday. Tahlia Willis' grandfather **Bart** is having a heart problem.

Arthur Wheeler, the husband of a friend of Darlene Reed, has esophageal cancer. He had surgery this past Monday and did well with the surgery.

Velli Dwyer, Wilma Patterson's nephew age 43 in Alexandria VA, has diabetic problems.

Bruce Brink's fiancée's uncle Peter passed away.

Upcoming Events (Lord willing)

Apr. 29 Ladies Devotional 6:30 PM Here at the building.

Apr. 29 - May 01 Liverpool Youth Rally

Apr. 30 Ladies' Day @ Amherst church of Christ

May 01 Potluck (Groups 1, 2, & 3 to setup & cleanup)

May 07 Brockport 14th Annual Spring Sing. See posting.

May 08 Mother's Day

May 14 "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" 5 PM

Sun. AM Adult Class - Why They Executed Jesus

Sun. PM - A study of the Gospels (Tonight Luke 21-24)

May 15 Men's Business Meeting

May 21 Men's Breakfast

Praise to God

Thanks to all that helped with yesterday's Lectureship.
There was 85 in attendance.



Sunday PM Class.

The reading schedule for May for the Sunday PM class is on the back table.

Sermon Topic Today: How to Live... In The World Without Being of The World

Scripture Reading: John 17:11-19



We are going to be trying something different for a while and we hope it will help with the flow of worship. To help us get into a worship mode all the announcements will be moved to the end of our worship time. Only the additions to our prayer lists and upcoming events will be announced. To open our time we will have a "call to worship" to prepare us for Worship. (thanks, Mark)

Ladies Devotional

There will be a Ladie's Devotional April 29 here at the building at 6:30 PM.

Please bring a baby picture or little girl picture of yourself and a regular picture of your mother.

Please bring a snack to share.

Any questions: See Jean Cameron. All ladies are invited to attend.

May Birthdays

03 Jeanne Johns 07 Frank Marsden 08 Joyce Flanagan 13 Patti Davis 14 Keith Marten 19 Glory Marten 21 Jim Mellott 31 Jace Stine

May Wedding Anniversaries

- 12 David and Becky Davis
- 12 Joan Nair
- 31 Matt & Lisa Nichols

Ladies Visitation Group

See Sharron Gantt or Marge Reed if you would be interested in visiting to encourage others. The group will be meeting at the church building and going on visits the first and third Tuesday of the month at 12:30 PM.



Guess Who's Coming To Dinner?

(or Guess Where You're Going To Dinner?)

May 14

Details & Sign-up forms are in the back of the auditorium.

Your form must be turned in by May 1st (next Sunday) to Glory Marten or Audrey Dailey.

We hope you will enjoy this great way to get to know one another better.

Info received 4/19/16

Tony & Egla

They are experiencing severe rain and flooding in the Houston area. Tony, Egla, and family are safe and have not been affected by the flooding. Several families from the congregation they are attending have been evacuated due to the rising waters.

Tim Nelsen and family

It is planned that Tim Nelsen and his family will be with us Sunday May 1st. Tim will preach for us that Sunday. As you know we are helping support them while he goes to the Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies in Knoxville, TN starting in July, Lord willing.

This Summer

Jul. 24-30 Camp Agape

Jul 31-Aug. 6 Potter Children's Home mission trip.

Help Fill the Crib

Donations for new and gently used baby items and personal care items for single moms through <u>Sunday May 1st</u>. A list of needed items can be found near the crib located in the back of the auditorium.

Trays Today: Diane Mellott

Wed. PM Adult Class - Minor Prophets