

## Sherman's Story – A Lesson for All of Us

by David Sproule Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Palm Beach Gardens, FL

The Sunday morning that Sherman responded during the invitation song will be remembered for a long time by those who were present. That little country church building had been there for generations and was showing its wear: discolored windows, rotting doors and a hollow-sounding wooden floor that made for noisy assemblies.

With the congregation singing “Just As I Am,” the old man stepped out from his seat and started down the center aisle to the front. Interestingly, no one in this small, close-knit congregation had ever seen him before that morning. Who was this Sherman fellow? This 84-year-old widower shuffled his feet all the way down the aisle, but the sound that stuck in the worshiper’s memories for years was the tap-tap-tap of Sherman’s metal-tipped cane on that hollow wooden floor.

The preacher slowly escorted the elderly man to the front pew and asked why he had come. He listened intently through the rest of song, visibly intrigued by whatever the man was saying. At the conclusion of the hymn, the preacher did something very unusual for him—he introduced Sherman to the congregation and then handed the mic over to let Sherman tell his story. Here’s what he shared:

“I was baptized in this church when I was 12, right out there in that creek. I remember this building when it was in much better shape. I attended here with my parents until I was 16, and I never came back...until today. Here’s why.

“One Sunday, while walking home from church (we didn’t have a car), I was throwing rocks at the ducks in the pond and kicking up dust onto my sister’s dress. My parents were talking, rather animatedly, but they didn’t think I was paying attention. Like most parents, they didn’t realize how much kids pick up on things, almost instinctively. I can vividly, even to this day, hear my mother sniping to my father, ‘What is wrong with this church? That was the worst mistake ever!’ Then, again, later that night, when I was supposed to be asleep in bed, I heard them talking again: ‘Maybe we should just take our membership somewhere else. If they can’t make better decisions than that, then...’

“The ‘mistake,’ believe it or not, had something to do with the entry steps right outside this front door. That was it! Not such a big deal in retrospect! But, my parents’ angry comments about the church and the elders made an impression on me, so much so that I gave up on the church at a young age and never looked back. Until yesterday, when my sister died. She also became disenchanted and left the church...for good.

“I don’t blame the church anymore or any of those men. I was the one who was wrong. My parents were wrong in how they handled it. If He will, I beg God to forgive me.”

## NEWSLETTER

Feb. 06, 2022

Mark Dailey, evangelist  
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## Schedule of Services

Our current schedule is:

Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM

*La Salle*  
church of Christ

*A place of worship and healing.*

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

lasallechurchofchrist.org



### 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). We would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in one of the receptacles provided at the front and rear of the auditorium. There will be an opportunity to give but as a visitor it is not expected of you. Thanks.



*There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs if you need to care for your infant.*



Read God's Word

*If you have an announcement or prayer request for the bulletin please contact Wayne Carter before noon on Friday.*

**Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent. Thank you.**

**Condolences** to Rodney & Carol Jones and family. Rodney's niece, Brianna Jones-Gray, lost her husband last week at age 33 due to a heart attack. Brianna has a 6 yr old girl and is expecting in July.

### James 5:16

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

**Prayers** *In our prayers, let's praise God, recognize His greatness, thank Him for His Son and His blessings.*

*Please pray as we continue our search for a gospel preacher.*

*Let's pray for those suffering in the Philippines from recent devastating weather conditions.*

**Anna Brink** was scheduled to be transferred to Roswell on Friday to be evaluated for treatment options.

**Diane Mellott** is dealing with severe arthritis in her right hip causing her difficulty walking. She is facing surgery in the future. She is scheduled for a Cortisone shot Feb. 16 and is scheduled to see her doctor in April.

**Darlene Reed** Because of the current Covid situation in the area her hip surgery scheduled for Feb. 23 has been postponed until further notice.

**Glen Mueller** Glen is in Jennie B. Richmond Nursing Home in Springville, NY, (Located in Bertrand Chaffe Hospital). Let's continue to pray for him and his family.

**Janine Galuppo**, Ray McArthur's sister near Syracuse, underwent emergency surgery Thursday to replace a shunt in her head and abdomen. She responded well to surgery and was discharged Friday. Please continue to pray for her and her family as she recovers.

**Dolores West** It was announced last Sunday that she is in ICU in Tenn. She is the wife of former member here Charles West. Charles is a gospel preacher in Tenn.

Let's pray not only for those that are physically sick but those that are spiritually sick as well.

Please keep our loved ones and their caregivers in your thoughts and prayers.

Let's pray for our members that have ongoing health and other issues.

Let's pray for family, friends, and loved ones of our members who are having health and other issues.

Let's pray for our shut-ins, widows, and widowers and call and send cards and be of service.

Let's pray for those dealing with family situations as well as work situations.

Let's pray for those dealing with weather related disasters.

Let's pray for those of our number who are looking for employment.

Let's pray for those that are traveling. May they have a safe journey.

Let's pray for God's people that are doing mission work all over the world.

Let's pray for people the world over that we may all learn to get along with each other.

Let's pray for those taking Bible correspondence courses at the present time.

Let's pray for children, families, and the staff at *Potter Children's Home and Family Ministries*.

Let's pray for the work being done at Great Lakes Christian High School in Beamsville, ONT.

Let's pray for our neighbors receiving *House to House/Heart to Heart* that they have receptive hearts.

## Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

**Feb. 14** Valentine's Day

**Feb. 20** ~~Men's Business Meeting~~ *Postponed to Feb. 27*

**Feb. 21** President's Day

**Feb. 27** Men's Business Meeting

Weekly Budget Amount \$1,843.00

Contribution Last Sunday \$867.00

Attendance Last Sunday 38

Financial Reports and Meeting Minutes are posted in the back of the auditorium.

## Ladies

The Ladies Tuesday morning Bible class has been postponed until further notice. More info to follow later.

## Caleb Callari's Radio Program - "Everyday Follower"

Do a search on YouTube for .....  
Everyday Follower, School of National Evangelism - Philippines

Please check the "*Mission Board*"  
in the back of the auditorium.

## Notice: Zambia Mission

Please see the recent letter from them posted on the *Mission Board* in the back of auditorium.

### RE M I N D E R

Because of a recent mandate from the governor of NY ....  
for the time being and until further notice ....

MASK REQUIRED



REGARDLESS OF  
VACCINATION STATUS

Please comply  
Thank You

Remember Social Distancing

## Widows & Widowers

Please remember our widows and widowers in cards, calls, and helpful service. **James 1:27**

Please update your new *Directory* that was passed out last week. The changes involve Doug Flanagan and Wayne Lyons. Please check the board in the back for the changes. Also, there are slips of paper on the table with the changes. The changes do not affect the *Phone Tree*.

**UPDATE**

## From Butts & Edie Sumner

Candy Butcher will be needing transportation to Sunday services starting next Sunday, February 13th.