

Gratitude For God's Grace!

by Dan Gulley Smithville church of Christ Smithville, TN

Amazing Grace – That's how John Newton summarized the good news of what God has done to transform sinners into saints. The apostle Paul declared in Titus 3:7 that because of and through Jesus Christ the potential exists for sinful people to be "justified by His grace." The word "justified" in this verse is a legal word, and here means that in spite of our sin, God can declare and view us as being righteous in His sight. Our aim here is not to dig into when and how that happens (covered by Paul in the tightly packed words of **Titus 3:3-7**). The aim here is to illustrate what it means when we sing or hear preachers say, concerning our sins, "He paid a debt He did not owe. I owed a debt I could not pay. I needed someone to wash my sins away. And now I sing a brand new song – Amazing Grace! Christ Jesus paid a debt that I could never pay" (American Folk Hymn, verse 1).

The following incident, quoted at length from a book entitled, Experiencing the Passion of Jesus (by Lee Strobel and Gary Poole, Zondervan, 20024) might help us. They write:

An acquaintance called with what he said was an embarrassing request: His little girl had been caught shoplifting from our church bookstore. He wanted to know if I would represent the church so she could come and apologize. He wanted to use this incident as a teaching moment. I agreed—but I had a much bigger lesson in mind. The next day, the parents and their 8-year-old daughter trooped into my office and sat down. "Tell me what happened," I said to the little girl as gently as I could. "Well," she said as she started to sniffle, "I saw a book that I really wanted, but I didn't have any money..." Now tears formed in her eyes and spilled down her cheeks. I handed her a tissue. "So I put the book under my coat and took it. I knew it was wrong. I knew I shouldn't do it, but I did. And I'm sorry. I'll never do it again. Honest!" "I'm so glad you're willing to admit what you did and say you're sorry," I told her. "That's very brave, and it's the right thing to do. But what do you think an appropriate punishment would be?" She shrugged. I thought for a moment before saying, "I understand the book cost \$5. I think it would be fair if you paid the bookstore five dollars, plus three times that amount, which would make the total twenty dollars. Do you think that would be fair?" She nodded sadly. "Yes," she murmured. She could see the fairness in that. But now there was fear in her eyes. Twenty dollars is a mountain of money for a little kid. Where would she ever come up with that amount of cash? I wanted to use this moment to teach her something about Jesus. So I opened my desk drawer, removed my checkbook, and wrote out a check on my personal account for the full amount. I tore off the check and held it out to her. Her mouth dropped open. "I'm going to pay your penalty so you don't have to. Do you know why I'd do that?" Bewildered, she shook her head. "Because I love you. Because I care about you. Because you are valuable to me. And please remember this: That's how Jesus feels about you too. Except even more." At that moment, she reached out and accepted my gift. I wish I could find the words to describe the look of absolute relief and joy and wonder that blossomed on her face. She was almost giddy with gratitude. (Story ends)

Jesus paid our sin debt, friend. Are you grateful for God's grace?

Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"

NEWSLETTER

Aug. 07, 2022

Mark Dailey, evangelist
(716) 754-2752

minister@lasallechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

Our current schedule is:

Sunday Bible Class 10:00 AM

Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM

La Salle
church of Christ

We Meet At

1121 N. Military Rd.
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Phone (716) 283-1214

Website: lasallechurchofchrist.org

We seek to be a place of healing and worship.



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

We offer a **free** Bible Correspondence Course

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

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 the situation in the Ukraine and surrounding areas.

Let's pray for those of our number who have been, and are, dealing with Covid.

Let's pray for Bill & Kris Kinney and all our families taking care of our shut-ins.

Candi Butcher is requesting prayers for strength as she deals with situations in her life.

Charles Bennett requests our prayers for the voice of God to be heard in his heart.

Frank Marsden Let's pray for him as he deals with a heart issue.

Butts Sumner is recuperating from back surgery and also dealing with a heart issue.

Ray McArthur His test results came back negative for cancer. The doctors will continue to monitor the situation.

Anna Brink is dealing with cancer.

Darlene Reed had a uterine biopsy on August 2nd.

Diane Mellott It was good to see her last Sunday after her recent hip surgery. See the *Thank You* card in the back.

Samantha Mellott is dealing with diabetes.

Maria Swindlehurst is dealing with several medical issues.

Shawna Martinez has been dealing with Covid.

Alison Parr, mother of Shawna Martinez, is dealing with a kidney issue.

Sharon Wheeler Let's keep her in our prayers as she deals with health issues.

Ruth Knepp Word was received June 30th that she has been in Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center and will probably be there for a while.

Sharron Gantt Let's pray that things continue to go well with her immunotherapy for bladder cancer.

Glen Mueller Let's continue to pray for him and his family. Let's also pray for the Sardinia church of Christ.

Jack Curnew is dealing with eye issues.

Sharon Alcorn, Jessica Alcorn's sister-in-law, has terminal brain cancer.

Marietta McArthur (Ray McArthur's mother) is dealing with health issues.

Janine Galuppo, Ray McArthur's sister near Syracuse, is dealing with multiple health issues.

Bob Galuppo's mother in Syracuse is not eating due to severe dementia effects. Bob is Ray & Bev McArthur's brother in law and a member of Wetzel Rd. church of Christ.

Marie, age 93 and a neighbor of Maria Swindlehurst, is under Hospice care.

Maureen, age 67 and mother of Shawna and Carlos Martinez' son-in-law, has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease.

Jason Stine (Linda Stine's son) is recovering at home from a recent heart attack at work.

Bill Blakelock, Marge Reed's brother-in-law and Kent Blakelock's brother, was in the hospital recently with a hematoma and it was thought he might have to have surgery. He was discharged from the hospital and they did not have to do surgery.

Crystal, Bruce Brink's cousin, was in a car accident about a year ago and is now in the hospital refusing to eat, drink, and take her meds.

Florence Walter, 88 and grandmother of Denise Garlitz' son-in-law, fell and fractured her pelvis and is in rehab.

Dorothy Newell, Joanne Morden's cousin in Alabama, is seriously ill.

Prayer List continued

Lewis/Deshotel family (friends of Maria Swindlehurst). Vanessa and her toddler daughter will be staying in Louisiana with her husbands parents while he is deployed to Romania with the National Guard to assist with Ukrainian troops. Vanessa is a member of the Lord's church.

There is a gentleman in Tenn that is a member of the Lord's church and also neighbor of Julie Grubbs (Carter's daughter) who has recently been diagnosed with cancer.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Aug. 14 Potluck after morning service. See the sign-up sheet.

Aug. 21 Men's Business Meeting

Sep. 05 Labor Day

Sep. 11 Men's Business Meeting

Weekly Budget Amount \$1,843.00

Contribution Last Sunday \$2,966.19

Attendance Last Sunday 52

Financial Reports and Meeting Minutes are posted in the back.

Mission Info Please check the *Mission Board* in the back.

Ukraine Relief

John Kachelman, Jr. Cell (901) 626-4538 john@kachelman.com https://kachelman.com

For updated reports go to John's website and click on the tab for Mission Work.

Philippines We support Caleb & Vanessa Callari doing mission work in the Philippines.

Caleb Callari's Radio Program - "Everyday Follower"

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

Zambia

The LaSalle congregation has been involved in the Zambia mission work for many years. A check in the amount of \$900 was recently sent from several LaSalle individuals who contribute toward assisting in the care of infants and orphans at the Namwianga Mission. This is the forty eighth (48th) child the LaSalle church family has supported. If you would like to help support the Zambian Mission, please place funds in the offering basket marked for Zambia. More information may be found at www.zambiamission.org

Matthew 19:14

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

"Would you like to study the Bible?"

Recently that question was presented to our neighbors in the new issue of House to House / Heart to Heart. Over 2,000 copies of HTH / HTH were mailed out around the Niagara Falls airport area. These households will receive a copy of the brochure for the next 6 months. Please pray for open hearts that are searching for Jesus and want to study the Bible and make sure you pick up a new copy to share with a friend.

Thank You card

Please see the *Thank You* card posted in the back from Diane Mellott.