I Went To Worship, Didn't I?

Does everybody who "goes to church" really worship? A man in church fell asleep while the preacher delivered his message on the horrors of hell. Near the close of the message the preacher shouted, "Those who want to go to hell, stand up." The half-sleeping man heard the words "stand up" and jumped to his feet. He looked around for a moment and then with a puzzled look on his face said, "Preacher, I don't know what we're voting on, but it looks like you and I are the only ones for it." This guy reminds us that not everybody sitting on the pews in a worship service is really worshipping.

Acts 24:11 contains an interesting statement by the apostle Paul as it relates to "going to worship." Among his other statements as he defends himself against Jewish opponents before the Roman governor Felix, Acts 24:11 reads, "I went up to Jerusalem to worship." As it turns out, his worship was interrupted when hate-filled Jews dragged him out of the temple precincts and went about to kill him (read Acts 21:30ff for more details). Paul was not the last person in worship to find himself hindered by others who apparently are not there to worship. If actions are any indication, not everybody who attends a worship service really worships. Jay Lockhart, preacher for the church in Tyler, Texas, observes- "There is a lot of lightness about worship which is seen in absenteeism, 'hall monitoring,' lateness, talking, leaving early, catching a few winks, getting it over with, etc.- no sense of reverence and awe." We might add some come to inspect and observe instead of participate, some come to socialize, and some come to criticize.

Jesus reminds us just showing up and sitting on a pew is not enough- "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth" (John 4:24). Contrary to the way some believe and behave, this is a demanding task. True worship requires the use of our minds as well as our hearts and souls. The Hebrew writer says our responsibility is to "consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together...but exhorting one another...as you see the day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24-25). Failure to worship properly threatens to make our worship vain, empty, and void (see Matthew 15:7-9). The question is not what did the song leader, teacher, preacher, elders, or others do. When I leave church assemblies, the question is, "I went to worship, didn't I?"

Dan Gulley, Evangelist
Smithville Church of Christ Smithville, TN

NEWSLETTER

Oct. 09, 2016

Mark Dailey, evangelist (716) 754-2752

Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:45 AM
Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM
* Sunday PM Worship 6:00 PM

La Salle church of Christ

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

lasallechurchofchrist.org minister@lasallechurchofchrist.org

Wednesday PM Bible Class 7:00 PM

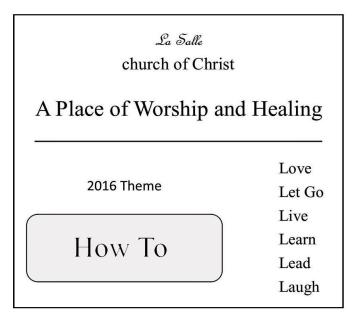


We welcome all who are here today.

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.

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.



Note: There is a Ladie's Bible Class each Tuesday at 10 AM at the building



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

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

<u>Those that attend</u>: 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, Cheryl Mellott, Ron & Jean Cameron, Jodie Kelly, Joyce Cameron, Charles Bennett, Carol Jones, Brenda Nelson.

<u>People in other places</u>: Jennifer Walters, Renee Kinney, Diane Fritton, Tim Mellott and family, Billy Stine, Wednesday Rahelich, Congressman Ted Poe, Doreen Woods, Betty Leistner, James Proctor, Stephanie, T.J., Connie Stewart, Tim and Gina Mellott & family, Wednesday Rahelich, Norm Lyons, Carol's sister Holly, and Frank's niece.

Updates:

Matthew Nichols had knee surgery this past Tuesday.

Mildred Lynum has been in the hospital recently. They were running tests. She has been dizzy lately.

Sheila Donkley, a friend of Darlene Reed, has bladder cancer.

Laval Baptiste, Louella's brother, had heart surgery in the past and is having another heart problem.

Susan Barrett is requesting prayers for her family.

Mary Lou, Anna Brink's sister, has a lump on her breast and is waiting for an order for a biopsy.

Let's pray for those dealing with *Hurricane Matthew*.

Also

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

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

Let's remember to pray for our shut-ins and to call and send cards.

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

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

Let's pray for those who may be traveling.

Let's pray for the work we help support in Sardinia, NY and also Rogers City, MI.

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

Let's also pray for Tim Nelsen and his family whom we are helping support while Tim is in preaching school.

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

Let's give thanks to God for the Edmond, OK congregation for all the help they have given us.

<u>Upcoming Events</u> (Lord willing)

- Oct. 10 Help is need at the building at 10 AM for preparing mail-out of House to House / Heart to Heart
- Oct. 10 Columbus Day
- Oct. 15 Men's Breakfast Canceled for October.
- Oct. 16 Men's Business Meeting
- Oct. 21-23 GLCC Homecoming Weekend and Annual Alumni Dinner.
- Oct. 23-26 Gospel Mtg. in Fenwick, ONT. Mark Dailey preaching.

 Theme: Tactical Errors of Growing Old In The Church. See posting.
- Oct. 30 Area-Wide 5th Sunday Singing hosted by Niagara Falls church of Christ (assisted by LaSalle).

 No PM service at LaSalle.

Sermon Topic Today: Pulled Back Into Fear - Pt. 1

Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:18

Sun. AM 1 Corinthians

Sun. PM The Gospels / Tonight: 1 Tim. 4 thru 2 Tim. 4

Wed. PM Ecclesiastes



Trays Today: Linda Stine

HELP NEEDED! Our first issue of *House to House / Heart to Heart* has finally arrived and is ready for us to mail to our neighbors around the LaSalle church building.

House to House / Heart to Heart is an evangelistic tool used to tell others about the Lord's church. We have 1,000 copies of the brochure that need folding and labeling.

Your help is needed **tomorrow**, Monday, October 10th at 10 AM at the church building. No experience is necessary, we will train. Everyone is invited to join us for a time of fellowship as we prepare the mailing. Please pray for open hearts in the homes we will be mailing to. See Audrey if you have questions.



Pick It Up – Fill It Up

The Potter's change cans are out and will be picked up November 6. Make sure you fill out the address paper and put it in the change can.

Mission Reports

We have received updated mission reports from Rogers City, Michigan; Hope 4 Life; and Zambia Missions. They have been posted on the Mission Board located in the back of the auditorium.

Please check them out and keep all our mission efforts in your prayers.

Please check the "Love One Another" and "Answered Prayers" boards in the back of the auditorium.



Smile and pay someone a compliment today.

