

## Is The Church Important?

It is a very common teaching today that Christ should be magnified but that the church is relatively unimportant. You can belong to the church of your choice, or you do not need to belong to any church. We shall answer this argument from the Bible.

We shall assume the truth of the following two propositions. The Bible, as it is, is sufficient for man as he is. The best commentary to the Bible is the Bible itself (II Timothy 3:16-17).

I held a meeting one time, and after the meeting a man came up to me and said, "Do you know what Moody said on baptism?" I said, "No, but I know what Paul said." Let me show you how the Bible is the best commentary on the Bible.

Jesus said that the church would be built on a rock. Certain commentaries would say that the rock was Peter. **What saith the scriptures?** I Corinthians 3:22 says that there is only one foundation **and that foundation was Christ**. I Corinthians 10:4 says that the rock was Christ. All the man-made commentaries in the world cannot change these basic truths (Hebrews 13:8).

The church is the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23). Can we mutilate the body of Christ? Can we exchange that body for another body (Ephesians 4:4)? No, the church is to be presented to Christ without spot or wrinkle (Ephesians 5:27). Christ is the savior of the body (Ephesians 5:23). Christ purchased the church with his blood (Acts 20:28). Jesus said that the gospel was to be preached to every creature (Mark 16:15). Jesus said that He had all authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18). He became to those who obey him the author of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:9).

We are justified by faith (Romans 5:1). Faith comes by hearing the word (Romans 10:17). Without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). Jesus prayed that we might believe through the word, given to us by the apostles (John 17:20-21). In order that we might listen to the apostles, we have the written word (John 20:30-31). The faith was once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3).

The Old Testament was our tutor to bring us to Christ, but now that Christ has come, we are no longer under the tutor (Galatians 3:24-25). When Jesus was on the Mount with the three apostles and Moses and Elijah appeared, Peter suggested that they have three places of worship: one for Moses, one for Elijah and one for Christ. God himself spoke from heaven. Listen to my Son. When John laid down the pen of inspiration he said that nothing more was to be added (Revelation 22:18-19).

For all time the church is to be honored with Christ (Ephesians 3:20-21). Men have made many denominations. But Jesus said that they were to be rooted up (Matthew 15:13). The church, that divine institution, began at the right time, at the right place. The Lord had declared that the law of the Lord would come from Jerusalem. God's house would come from there (Isaiah 2:2-3).

The apostles were gathered. The Holy Spirit, who was to guide them into all truth, came. The gospel had become an established fact. Christ had been raised from the dead. He had gone back to heaven (Acts 1:8-11). Jesus had said that repentance and the remission of sins should be preached in His name beginning from Jerusalem .... (Luke 24:46-47).

Peter explained the purpose of the coming of the Holy Spirit. Then he declared the fact of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. This brought conviction. The divine record says that they were pricked in their hearts (Acts 2:37). They asked what they should do. The answer came, not only from the apostles, but from the Holy Spirit. "And Peter said unto them, 'Repent ye and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" To whom does this apply? Verse 39 answers that question: "For to you is the promise, and to your children and **to all that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him**" (Emphasis mine - JCB). What happened? "They then who received his word were baptized, and there were added unto them in that day about 3,000 souls" (Acts 2:41).

What did this church do? "They continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers."

Yes, the church is important. Christ did not die for something unimportant.

*J.C. Bailey, 1993, Weyburn, Saskatchewan Published in The Old Paths Archive (<http://www.oldpaths.com>)*

## NEWSLETTER

Dec. 03, 2017

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## Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Study 9:45 AM

Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM

No Sunday PM Service

Wednesday PM Bible Study 7:00 PM

*La Salle*  
church of Christ

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

[lasallechurchofchrist.org](http://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) 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 keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during worship.**

## In 2017 – Striving to:

*Grow & Sow  
Reach & Teach  
Live & Give*

*a place of worship and healing*



house to house  
heart to heart  
[housetohouse.com](http://housetohouse.com)



Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries  
2350 Nashville Rd.  
Bowling Green, KY 42101  
270 843-3038  
[potterministries.org](http://potterministries.org)



IN  
**SEARCH**  
OF THE LORD'S WAY®

Speaker  
Phil Sanders  
[www.searchtv.org](http://www.searchtv.org)

Time Warner Cable Channel 20  
Tuesday 5:30 AM  
Friday 4:30 PM

We offer a **free** Bible Correspondence Course

Condolences

Michael, significant other of Cheryl Ferguson, passed away Thursday Nov. 23. Cheryl is a friend of Carol Jones.

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

Those that attend: Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Darlene Reed, Butts & Edie Sumner, Chris Highway, Candi Butcher, Cheryl Mellott, Joyce Cameron, Willow McFarland, Tahlia Willis, Logan Bennett, Kyra Kyle, Bev McArthur, Maria Swindlehurst, Jean Cameron, Sonny Stine, Marvis Garrett, Brenda Nelson, and Diane Mellott.

People in other places: Renee Kinney, Tim Mellott and family, T.J., Wednesday Rahelich, Jack Openshaw, Paul Stewart, Betty Leistner, Denise Garlitz' grandchildren and her son Jeff, Mary Lou, Carol's sister Holly, Frank's niece, Tony & Eglar Grana, Susan Barrett & family, Karen Anstee, Randy Marten, George Beckwith, Doris & Mary Jane Mess, Andrea, Red & Goldie Crow, Samantha Allee, Brenda Baptiste, Cheryl Wheeler, Karen & Joe Costanzo, Cindy, Jeanne Johns, Emily Sestack, Levi, Loretta Gorito, Kay Ables, Lionel Weir, Mary Lou, Gloria, Kevin & Gail Bodie, Linda Mudd, Dorothea Johnson, Tammy, Rita D, Jenna, Billie Jo Potter, Louise Kohlbacher, Debbie Curry, Jaye Boyle, Barry Mitchell, Martha.

Updates:

Let's pray as we continue our preacher search process.

Marvis Garrett had an endoscopy Dec. 1.

Anna Brink saw the eye doctor on Thursday.

Brenda Nelson finished her radiation treatments Thursday and will see the doctor Dec. 13 for a checkup.

Mary (daughter of Don & Virginia Hipwell in Fenwick, ONT) is dealing with a health issue. The meds she is on seem to help. She had a doctor visit this past week.

Linda Mudd. It was found out Oct. 29 that she is awaiting a lung transplant. She has been cleared for surgery.

Andrew, Kassie Kern's ex-boyfriend, was recently arrested for possession of marijuana. Let's pray for him.

Vanessa Lewis, age 20, youngest daughter of former member Cyndi Lewis, is in the hospital with a kidney problem.

Jurek family. Irene had a stroke recently. Her husband has cancer and also her son.

Cora Parson met a man on the bus recently and his family needs prayers. Chris Williams Jr., Dan Williams, and Collette Williams. Let's pray for Chris concerning his drug problem.

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.

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.

Sun. AM Adult Bible Study 2 Corinthians

Sermon Topic Today: Fear, Faith, and Healing

Scripture Reading: Matt. 8:18-25

No Sun. PM Service

Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study 10 AM at the building.

Wed. PM Bible Study Galatians

Trays Today

Audrey Dailey



Read Me

Upcoming Events (Lord willing)

Dec. 09 Ladies Holiday Party Pane's Restaurant in North Tonawanda

Dec 10 Teachers Meeting after the morning worship.

Dec. 17 Men's Business Meeting



Attention Teachers

There will be a Teachers Meeting next Sunday after the morning worship.



It's time for another mailing of House to House/Heart to Heart to go out. We will be getting together on Thursday, December 7th, at 10AM here at the church building to prepare the new issue for mailing. We hope to see you there!

Dec. Birthdays

05 Dennis Reed  
17 Carol Jones  
25 Kyra Kyle

Dec. Anniversaries

None This Month

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



Smile and pay someone a compliment today.

