

Worship or Play Church?

by Dan Jenkins of the Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ, West Palm Beach, Florida

I will never forget that cottonwood tree just outside the back door of the house I lived in for my entire childhood. It was where we built our treehouse and where the ropes for young “Tarzans” and swings for young children were anchored. But, the best memory I have of that tree was that several times every week we “played church” in its shade.

We were serious about “playing church ” - I preached hundreds of sermons and lead hundreds of songs under its huge branches. However, just to be entirely truthful, if my mother offered us treats or suggested we go get a special toy at the “five and dime” store - talk about inflation, they are now called the dollar store - church ended!

Sometimes as I worship, I wonder if even now I fully comprehend the seriousness of worship. How far have I come from those days when I “played church”? The words God gave to two of His messengers come to my soul and create a longing for Him to help me to do more than “play church”—they help me to worship. “The Lord is in His holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him...Guard your steps as you go into the house of God and draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools...for God is in heaven and you are on the earth” (Hab. 2:20; Ecc. 5:1-2).

It sometimes is far easier to “play church” and to just sing rather than to worship and praise Him. I know the words and melody of many songs but at those times when I sing, they come from my body and not my soul. Do you ever do this?

As I listen to godly men proclaim His message, I sometimes lose the attitude expressed by Cornelius, “We are all present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God” (Acts 10:33). God, at these times, help me. Mold me and make me...thou are the potter I am the clay. Do you ever do this?

We prayed under that cottonwood tree, but sometimes we missed the seriousness of prayer. Paul was in prayer, and when in prison, he asked others to pray for him because he truly believed he would be released from prison because of these very prayers (Phil. 1:19). Do you ever do this?

We used to pretend to give as we “played church.” Sometimes, I lose sight of how my giving is designed to help minister to the needy, to proclaim the gospel to the lost, to enable the church to be edified especially in our building and to “help” God accomplish His work. Do you ever do this?

The same is true of the Lord’s Supper. When I forget the cross, I close the door to spiritual maturity (2 Pet. 1:8-9). Do you ever do this? God help me to be changed by worshiping you. Forgive me when I just “play church.”

NEWSLETTER

Mar. 12, 2017

Mark Dailey, evangelist
(716) 754-2752

minister@lasallechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Class	9:45 AM
Sunday AM Worship	11:00 AM
* Sunday PM Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday PM Bible Class	7:00 PM

La Salle church of Christ

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

lasallechurchofchrist.org

* 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.

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



Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries
2350 Nashville Rd.
Bowling Green, KY 42101
270 843-3038
potterministries.org



IN
SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY ®

Speaker
Phil Sanders
www.searchtv.org

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

We offer a free Bible Correspondence Course

Condolences

Leo Johns passed away in the early morning hours of Thursday March 9th. Let’s pray for family, friends, and loved ones at this time of loss. Please see the posted obituary which includes visitation and service time. Directions to funeral home are also posted.

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

Those that attend: Joe Pitts, Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Darlene Reed, Jeanne Johns, Butts & Edie Sumner, Rick & Fran Fees, Diane Mellott, Chris Highway, Keith & Glory Marten, Bev McArthur, Candi Butcher, Cheryl Mellott, Ron & Jean Cameron, Joyce Cameron, Carol Jones, Tahlia Willis, Willow, Brenda Nelson, and Logan Bennett.

People in other places: Renee Kinney, Tim Mellott and family, Diane Fritton, Billy Stine, T.J., Wednesday Rahelich, Congressman Ted Poe, Doreen Woods, Betty Leistner and also Denise Garlitz’ grandchildren, James Proctor, Stephanie, Carol’s sister Holly, Frank’s niece, Sheila Donkley, Laval Baptiste, Mary Lou, Mila Roche, Tony & Egla Grana, Patrick, Susan Barrett & family, Jack Openshaw, Liz Holton, George Kohlbacher, Karen Anstee, Randy Marten, Jeff Elder, Bobby Granton, Sherry Allen, Isabella Rick, Pat Ferrio, Doris & Mary Jane Mess, Christina Perry, Ken Nellington, John Helwig, George Beckwith, Michelle Phillips, Emily Sestack, John Grubbs, Stephanie Hart, Paul Stewart, and Red & Goldie Crow.

Updates:

Joyce Cameron has cellulitis in her foot.
Keith Marten is undergoing tests and procedures.
Bruce Brink saw the doctor March 2nd and as it turns out nothing is torn. He will have to do PT for four weeks and see the Dr. again on April 18th.
Richard Wheeler has been having a problem with his chest tightening up.
Butts Sumner is scheduled for shoulder surgery April 7th.
Cora Parson is asking prayers concerning her son Lorenzo Johnson that he be led in the right path.
George Kohlbacher is under Hospice care. Let’s pray for him and his family.
Michelle Phillips, Louella Hopkins’ daughter in law, is scheduled for a double mastectomy April 21st.
Goldie Crow has been having some health problems recently.
Betty Leistner has been taken off chemotherapy.
Ken Wagner, a friend of Denise Garlitz, had a severe heart attack recently but is doing better now.
Holly, Carol Jones’ sister, went to the hospital on March 2nd in St. Catherines. She lacerated her leg and developed an infection.
Paul Stewart. Please see the posted email from former member Janet Smith concerning her father.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Mar. 18 Men’s Breakfast 8:30 AM.
Mar. 18 Ladies Day - Horseheads church of Christ Please see posting.
Mar. 19 Men’s Business Meeting after the morning worship.
Mar. 20 Spring Begins
Apr. 08 Men’s Retreat Hosted by Fenwick church of Christ. See posting.



Read Me

Sun. AM Adult Class 1 Corinthians
Sermon Topic Today: *Reach Out Your Hand*
Scripture Reading: *John 20:24-29*
Sun. PM Class (Not sure because of funeral)
Tuesday Ladies’ Bible Class 10 AM at the building.
Wed. PM Class Angels

Please check the
“*Love One Another*” and “*Answered Prayers*”
boards in the back of the auditorium.

Attention Ladies

The Ladies Bible Class meets every Tuesday at 10AM and we encourage all ladies to join us for a time of study, song and prayer. This Tuesday we will begin a new lesson series entitled, "We are God's Field."
Horseheads Ladies Day 3/18
Any ladies interested in attending the Horseheads ladies Day, please see Audrey.
We will be leaving Saturday at 6 AM sharp from the church building and returning about 5 PM.

Ladies mark your calendars for our next get-together on Friday, March 31st at 6:30PM.
Linda Stine will be facilitating the evening.

We’re planning another “***Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner***”
(Or Guess Where You’re Going To Dinner)
Watch for details in next week’s bulletin.

Fenwick Men’s Retreat in Ontario, Canada
Saturday, April 8th
Anyone interested in attending see Mark Dailey as soon as possible.
We will need to preregister by April 2nd
You will need a current enhanced driver’s license or valid US passport book or passport card to cross the international border (NO EXCEPTIONS).
Theme:
Moving in an Angry World: Challenges, Strategies & Fruits of Patience & Forgiveness
Please see posting.