

I Want A Church That Meets My Needs

by William Woodson

The statement made in the title is not only the desire of many in the religious world, but is becoming the philosophy of many Christians, because many of us are seeking a religion that “meets our needs.” The phrase itself has virtually become a new religious term. Many persons praise or blame a particular congregation because it is or is not “meeting my needs.” Let me hasten to say that if the phrase means that we need to satisfy spiritual hunger, then it is a good expression. For surely everyone ought to be in a Christian community where his/her deepest spiritual longings are being addressed. The voice of God needs to be heard through spiritual teaching, and we need opportunities to serve, love, and be called to repentance. But being a part of the church to some means reaching for goals of “self-actualization.” So, if the church doesn’t fulfill certain expectations, wants, and preferences, then they must move on to another emotional department store with different merchandise more appealing to their “tastes.” Sadly, and probably without realizing it, many congregations have gotten into thinking that “we have to do all these things and plan all the activities to meet people’s needs so they won’t leave.” Consequently, well-meaning leaders have turned God’s church into a merchandising institution. So we promote this program and that program for this group and that group. But, in my judgment, the system has become turned upside down from the way God intended it to be. Whatever happened to the attitude in a Christian’s heart of “I’d like to be a part of this congregation because of what I can do to meet its needs?” When are we most fulfilled? When our needs are met? Or when we meet the needs of God’s church on this earth? We ought to be a part of a congregation not so that our needs can be met, but rather so that we may best meet the needs of God’s work. Christians need to recall the truth of the Scriptures that personal fulfillment is a great spiritual paradox. We are most filled when we empty ourselves and be filled serving others. Jesus taught us, “whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant - Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister” (Mat. 20:26-28). Paul said of his own heart I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me (Gal. 2:20). And again, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service” (Rom. 12:1). “Reasonable service” is not being served (having your needs met), but serving (meeting the needs of others). We need to relearn the axiom, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts20:35). Let’s not demand that God’s church be a place where people (leadership or membership) cater to our desires and preferences. Let’s turn it right-side up again and be a part of a congregation, not for what it can do for us, but for what we can do for it!

NEWSLETTER

June 04, 2023

Mark Dailey, evangelist
(716) 754-2752

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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

This bulletin can also
be found on our website.

We seek to be a place of healing and worship.

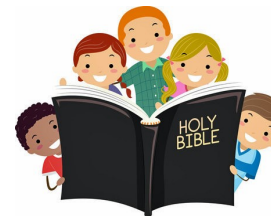


We welcome all who are here today.

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 keep the following in our prayers...

Roger Mapes, Marge Reed, Jessica Alcorn, Bill Kinney, and Frank Marsden.

Denise Garlitz received a good report from the doctor. Recovery is going well.

Candy Butcher It was announced last Sunday she was to have a heart procedure on Thursday at N.F.M.M.C. Word was received Thursday night she would be having open heart surgery on Friday. Word was received Friday evening she came through the surgery fine. The doctor performed a quadruple by-pass and is optimistic she will make a full recovery.

Louella Hopkins She received good news from the kidney doctor on Wednesday. Her numbers went from 31 to 47 which is a good thing. She thanks everyone for the prayers on her behalf.

Michael & Hope Rice Let's pray for them as they deal with struggles in their life, and also Hope's mom. Hope announced last Sunday that her mom is here for now and her mom thanks everyone for the prayers.

Carlos & Shawna Martinez Let's pray for them as they deal with struggles in their life.

Rick Fees fell while in Florida. Since returning here it's been discovered he has a torn rotator cuff. He met with a surgeon this past week concerning a course of action.

Conner Orton (Erin's Orton's son) Let's pray for him as he works to have a good relationship with his father.

Wilma Patterson is scheduled for hernia surgery June 13th.

Lamont, Louella Hopkins' brother, had surgery May 26th involving a tumor on his kidney. The surgery went fine and he is cancer free.

Johnny Martinez, brother of Carlos Martinez, suffered a stroke May 4th. He was in a medically induced coma. Let's keep him and his loved ones in our prayers.

Dan Callari, from Amherst congregation, is dealing with some health issues.

Marietta McArthur (Ray McArthur's mother). Let's keep her in our prayers as she deals with health issues.

Peter, husband of Denise Garlitz' niece, has colon cancer and is awaiting surgery.

Miranda, Louella Hopkins' granddaughter, is expecting and is due in July. She is Type-1 diabetic and is having problems with her sugar and blood pressure. She is wearing monitors. She has pre-eclampsia and gestational hypertension. There is an 80% chance she will deliver by cesarean. It was announced last Sunday she is in need of a root canal.

Lisa, Richard Wheeler's sister, is in a rehab facility in Newfane.

Patricia Cassick, a friend of Maria Swindlehurst, is waiting on biopsy results.

Julie Grubbs, Wayne & Sherry Carter's daughter, is having some medical issues. Her recent CAT scan came back normal.

Mary (John Nowak's sister) It was announced May 21st that she has cancer. It was announced May 28th there is better news than was originally thought.

April (a young woman in Texas that had a phone conversation with one of our sisters here). Let's pray she finds a congregation of the Lord's church in her search for the truth.

Linda, Marge and Nancy's sister in GA, has multiple health issues and recently fell and broke her shoulder. She saw her doctor May 25th and was admitted to the hospital.

Glen Mueller He is the preacher at the Sardinia church of Christ. Let's keep him and Edna in our prayers.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Jun. 11 Next Sunday. Men's Business Meeting

Jun. 14 Flag Day

Jun. 18 Father's Day

Jun. 19 Juneteenth Day

Jul. 04 Independence Day

Weekly Budget Amount \$1,843.00

Contribution Last Sunday \$968.00

Attendance Last Sunday 40

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

Caleb Callari with his wife Vanessa and family are doing mission work in the Philippines.

Caleb & Vanessa Callari *Email Address:* callari.mission@gmail.com

PO Box 0241

Talamban, Cebu City

Philippines 6000

Radio Program "Everyday Follower" can be found on YouTube.

Do a search on youtube.com for "School of National Evangelism Philippines."

Zambia

The LaSalle congregation has been involved in the Zambia mission work for many years.

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."

Thank You card ...

Please see the *Thank You* card from Jessica Alcorn that is posted in the back.



Camp Agape 2023
July 16 to July 22

Forms available on website.

Website: camp-agape.com

