



Temptation Yes, It's a Trap

NEWSLETTER

Feb. 19, 2023

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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.

Where Are You in the Temptation Process?

by David Sproule Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Picture this in your mind. There is a fish who is safely tucked away and minding his own business in the rocks and thick grass of the riverbed. He is doing just fine. Then, something catches his eye. There is something dancing around near the surface of the water. It looks rather intriguing. What could it be? Dare he come out of his spot to check it out? No! He doesn't want to take a chance. Not now.

So, the fish stays put. But every once in a while, the sparkle of the sun against this dancing object draws his eyes again to the surface. Before he realizes it, he is glancing up at that enticing object more than he is paying attention to life around him, and without realizing it, he begins to inch out of his place of safety and into the open water. His curiosity and cravings get the better of him and he drifts closer and closer to this alluring phenomenon.

He finally sees it clearly and he wants it. It almost seems to have him in a trance with some kind of tractor beam effect. He begins to circle this tantalizing wonder, swimming around it several times to get a better look, consider his options and make up his mind, "Is it worth it?" Finally, he cannot hold himself back any longer and he takes a bite. Next thing he knows, he's pulled out of his home and into a frying pan.

The illustration above depicts what happens to us in the temptation process. Read [James 1:14-15](#). "But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death."

We may think we are tucked away safely, but then something enticing catches our eye. At first, we might ignore it, but the longer it presents itself, the more intrigued we become. Before we know it, we have inched away from where we should be and find ourself in the open water of vulnerability. While we still have time to get back to safety, sometimes the temptation is so strong that we give in to it, rather than flee from it. We take the bite. Sometimes the realization of what we have done hits us immediately; sometimes it hits us later. Regardless, we're in Satan's frying pan.

Friend, where are you in the temptation process? Has something sinful caught your eye? Divert and close your eyes! "I will set nothing wicked before my eyes" ([Psa. 101:3](#)).

Have you been lured from your place of safety? "Turn" back immediately ([Jas. 5:20](#)).

Are you about ready to give in? "Flee," "resist" "cry out to God" ([1 Pet. 2:11](#); [Jas. 4:7](#); [2 Chron. 7:14](#)).

Did you already bite? "Repent and pray to God" that you may "be forgiven" ([Acts 8:22](#)).

Temptation is strong, but with God's strength ([Eph. 6:10](#)), you are stronger ([1 John 4:4](#)).



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.

Roger Mapes As of this past Sunday he was still in the hospital.

Jessica Alcorn continues with chemo treatments. She thanks all for the cards, calls, and prayers on her behalf.

Louella Hopkins thanks everyone for the cards, phone calls, and prayers on her behalf.

Dennis & Darlene Reed It was announced Feb. 5 that they are both dealing with Covid.

Samantha Mellott is dealing with some health issues.

Marietta McArthur (Ray McArthur's mother) Let's pray for her as she deals with health issues.

Cheryl Moore-Johns (lifelong friend of Bev McArthur) She is facing several surgical procedures. She recently had oral surgery and will have surgery on her left shoulder in April. She is thankful for our prayers.

Jason Stine, Linda Stine's son, is dealing with health issues involving his heart.

Steve Shaw, Pam Schnell's and Jim Mellott's cousin, is in serious condition after suffering a massive heart attack.

Jeff Elder's father is dealing with heart issues.

Cheryl, Bruce Brink's future mother in law, is dealing with hip pain and limited mobility.

Hope Rice's mother had a house fire before Christmas. Hope is asking for prayers that the people she use to worship with will reach out to her mom.

Peter is dealing with colon cancer. He is the husband of Lynn who is Denise Garlitz' niece. Let's pray for them.

Barb Stortz Some of us here know her. She is a member at Amherst. She is requesting prayers on her behalf because she is suffering with C. Diff.

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

Please keep our loved ones and their caregivers in your thoughts and prayers.

Let's pray for our members that have ongoing health and other issues.

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

Let's pray for our shut-ins, widows and widowers, and call, send cards, and be of service.

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

Let's pray for those dealing with weather related disasters.

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

Let's pray for those that are traveling. May they have a safe journey.

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.

Let's pray for those taking Bible correspondence courses at the present time.

Let's pray for children, families, and the staff at *Potter Children's Home and Family Ministries*.

Let's pray for the work being done at Great Lakes Christian High School in Beamsville, ONT.

Let's pray for our neighbors receiving *House to House Heart to Heart* that they have receptive hearts.

Thank You Letter

Please see the Thank You letter posted in the back from Heart, Love, and Soul.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Feb. 19 Today. Men's Business Meeting

Feb. 20 Presidents' Day

Mar. 05 *Potluck.* Groups 1,2, & 3 to setup and cleanup.

Mar. 11 Set clocks ahead one hour before going to bed.

Weekly Budget Amount \$1,843.00

Contribution Last Sunday \$1,740.00

Attendance Last Sunday 35

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

Several members of the LaSalle congregation have been financially supporting the mission work in Zambia for many years. A check in the amount of \$900 was mailed recently to assist in the care of infants and orphans at the Namwianga Mission. If you would like to help support the Zambian Mission, please place funds in the offering plate 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."

We All Have Giants to Slay

by Jay Launius Maud church of Christ Maud, Texas

There's not a kid that ever went to bible class that hasn't heard the story of David and Goliath. The story of the shepherd boy who went head to head with the Philistine champion who stood over 10 feet tall is a bible classic. The victory given to David by the Lord, despite uneven odds, is the same success we all seek over the various temptations faced throughout our lives.

Christians stand in the valley, challenged by the devil, just as David stood in front of the giant in the Valley of Elah. (1 Samuel 17:2) David had the king's armor available to him (though he chose not to wear it). We are encouraged to put on the whole armor of God so to defend ourselves against the schemes and fiery darts of the devil. (Eph. 6:10-20) As Jesus came out of the wilderness, He took the devil straight on. Satan tempted Him in all the ways that he tempts us, yet the Lord never gave in to sin. (Heb. 4:15) At times, the enticements of sin seem gigantic, powerful and ten feet tall, they become our "Goliath"! But just as David loaded a small smooth stone into his sling, we must have the sword of the spirit drawn and read to slay our adversary, the devil who walks about like a predator seeking whom he can destroy and devour. (1 Peter 5:8)

The giants you battle may be different than the ones I face, but the strength and eventual victory comes from the source, our Almighty God! As Philippians 4:13 states so well, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." And with this strength, we will slay all of our giants.