An Earthly Ministry

1 Corinthians 9:1-18

The local church is where God's children have a freedom, a right, and a compulsion for ministry.

God desires a local church to be where believers;

1. are free to serve. v1-2, Matthew 20:26, Romans 12:3-8

2. are worthy of being served. v3-14, 1 Timothy 5:17-18, Luke 10:7–8

3. are compelled to serve. v15-18, 2 Corinthians 5:14, Galatians 2:20

1 Peter 4:10-11
Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God.
If anyone speaks, let it be as one who speaks God's words; if anyone serves, let it be from the strength God provides, so that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ in everything.
To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

"For the service of Christ and his Saints, we are cordially willing to stay in hard and difficult service."
~Roger Williams~

1603 – 1683, an English-born New England minister, theologian, author, and founder of the Providence Plantations, which later became the State of Rhode Island. His dedication to religious liberty, separation of church and state, and fair dealings with the Native Americans which got him expelled from the Massachusetts Bay Colony. In 1636 he established Providence Plantations as a refuge, offering what he termed "liberty of conscience" making Rhode Island the first government in the Western world to guarantee religious freedom in its founding charter. In 1638 he founded the First Baptist Church in America in Providence and is Pastor Steve's great great great great great great great great great grandfather.