

Church of Christ

77 Cogan Avenue
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
(518) 563-2970

December 3, 2023

DON'T EVER QUIT!

Most people regard a quitter as one of the most despicable characters on earth. We admire a person who, against all odds, keeps on struggling till the contest is ended; who keeps on running till he finishes the race, even if he has no chance of winning. We applaud the man who crawls across the finish line dead last—but finishes the race! The book of Hebrews is filled with admonitions to discouraged Christians, but in Hebrews 10, the writer particularly focuses on the needs of despondent and weary disciples. The Hebrew writer develops three central thoughts that are designed to stir the brethren up to renewed efforts:

“Call to remembrance the former days...” (Hebrews 10:32). As the readers would reflect upon the former days, they would remember their endurance in a great struggle of suffering when they were openly exposed to public ridicule and scorn. This may well have been in an open arena with jeering crowds watching. Their courage and stand for right would not yield, nor would they hang their heads in shame because of their faith. They would remember that they shared in the affliction of others when they stood by them. What is more, they had even accepted the seizure of their property joyfully, because they were aware, at that time, of the enduring reward they had in heaven as compared to the transitory value of material things (Matthew 6:19-20; 1 Timothy 6:17, 19). Remembering the strength they had in times past would instill their strength anew.

“Cast not away therefore your confidence...” (Hebrews 10:35). This thought is best illustrated by the soldier who, in the heat of battle, throws away his shield in fear and flees. They needed to be reminded that their trust has a great recompense. However, the only way they will receive that reward is by enduring (Matthew 10:22; Revelation 2:10). The hope for relief is in sight, for the Lord will not tarry in His coming in judgment against the oppressive powers (Hebrews 10:37; Habakkuk 2).

“Don’t draw back...” (Hebrews 10:38). The just will survive by his faithfulness but God has no pleasure in quitters. The picture here is of one who stealthily sneaks back away from the conflict, hoping that his withdrawal will be inconspicuous. While Jesus offers the Christian peace in the midst of an anxious world (John 14:27), He does not offer freedom from conflict and adversity with the world (John 15:18-20; 2 Timothy 3:12). Let us remember that only the coward shrinks from the heat of the battle.

Brethren, don’t ever quit! Don’t ever give up! If you quit, you lose it all (Matthew 16:25). In the final analysis, it matters not how much we loath a quitter, God loathes a quitter even more, “...but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him” (Hebrews 10:38). With knees bloody and body spent, crawl if you have to, but finish the course! (2 Timothy 4:7; Philippians 3:14).

Mike Riley

New Providence church of Christ
Clarksville, TN

PRAY FOR...

Barns, John: health struggles

Brownwood family: struggles

Clackler, John: Julie's dad, in Meadowbrook

Collins, Judy: Mary Ch's cousin, cardiac struggles

Cross, Lynn: health struggles

Crumpp family: various struggles

Evans, Crystal: Cindy's daughter, health struggles

Fredrick, John: in rehab following motorcycle accident

Garrow, Ralph: serious back trouble

Hommes Joyce: various family struggles

Howard, Sammy: struggles

Laphan, Charlene: health struggles

Loss: friends and family of Betty Morrow

McKeever Neil: failing health

Missing members: please contact someone this week

Missions: Brazil, Malawi, Ukraine

Monette, Caleb: Lynn St.Pierre's grandson, struggles

Moschelle, Danielle: health struggle with cancer

Peck, Tanya: Patty's niece, health struggles

St.Pierre, Lynn: family struggles

Ukrainian and Russian Christians

Vaus, Amy: Amber's cousin, stage 4 lung cancer

War between Israel and Hamas

Whitfield, Freda (& caregivers): Mary's mother, health struggles

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77 Cogan Avenue

Plattsburgh, NY 12901

office: 518-563-2970

www.plattsburghchurch.com:

Don Alan Riggs, preacher, 518-410-8687

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday- 9 am-1 pm

Schedule of Services

Sun. Bible Classes 10 A.M.

Sun. Worship 11 A.M.

Wed. Bible Classes 6:30 P.M.

“Continue to help us keep this list updated and to pray for those mentioned in previous bulletins.”

Welcome to Worship

Welcome to the Plattsburgh Church of Christ. We are so glad to have you here with us today. We have been praying that God would allow us to meet you today and worship together. If you are visiting from the area, we would love to have you as part of our family!

For The Congregation

We are looking for suggestions for an end of the year activity.

Don Alan and Hannah are attending a marriage seminar on the weekend of Dec 17 and we will have Garth filling in on that Sunday.

Thoughts for the Congregation

Question to think on this week.
“What is preventing you from making yourself available to God?”

Munchie Moments

Men’s Prayer Breakfast: Our next breakfast is January 7 at 8am followed by the MLM
Ladies’ Time: Our luncheon is today.Ladies to join us. Our next one will be December 17,
Fellowship Meal:. Our next meal is January 28. Let’s celebrate our new year together.

Wanted: Great Hearts

The Word is solemn; therefore, do not trifle.
The task is difficult; therefore, do not relax.
The opportunity is brief; therefore, do not delay.
The path is narrow; therefore, do not wander.
The prize is glorious; therefore; do not faint.

North Macon Daily Messenger
Harry Goff, editor

Doug’s Devotional From Afar

But Peter continued knocking, and when he opened, they saw him and were amazed” Acts 12:16.

Why didn’t He rescue James? As the chapter opens, we read that Herod kills James with the sword, violent hands are laid on some in the church, and then he seizes Peter with plans to kill him too after the Passover. What was going on in the minds of these early Christians when they saw their friends so easily persecuted (and this was after Saul had earlier ravaged the church) and one from Jesus’ inner circle so quickly killed? Was God really with them? Was the church to be destroyed by the world’s relentless hate? The church was in earnest prayer to God for Peter while he languished in prison. But did they believe in prayer? When an angel miraculously had Peter walk out of the prison to where the church was praying, they don’t believe at first that it is him, and when they finally see him in the doorway, they were amazed. Amazed? God can do all things for sure, and their shaken faith was renewed. But why not rescue James the same way? Because it did not suit the sovereign Lord’s purpose! The same Jesus in control of Peter’s situation was in James’ ... and in ours too.



Sundae Toppings

Today: Men’s Prayer Breakfast, MLM
12/10, Family Meeting
12/17, Ladies Luncheon
12/24, No Fellowship Meal



2023 WVBS Interactive Bible Reading Plan

SOTW: Hebrews
Dec. 3, 2 Tim., Prov. 3
Dec. 4, Titus, Pro. 4
Dec. 5, Philemon, Prov. 5
Dec. 6, Heb. 1-2, Prov. 6
Dec. 7, Heb. 3-4, Prov. 7
Dec. 8, Heb. 5-6, Prov. 8
Dec. 9, Heb. 7-8, Prov. 9
SUPP: Women’s Role in the Church
website: video.wvbs.org
Other Resources
sermonlines.com
theabidingword.com

Children’s Church Workers

Today: Mary Clackler
Next Week: Kristia Brownwood



Mark Your Calendar

12/16, Kristia Brownwood’s birthday in Christ

High Finance

Pharaoh’s daughter was the greatest financial wizard in the Bible. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

“The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible.” — George Burns

Important Commandment

After explaining the commandment to honor your father and mother, a Sunday School teacher asked her class if there was a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters. One boy, the oldest in his family, immediately answered, “Thou shalt not kill.”

Sunday 12/3

Welcome: John
Opening Pray: John
Song Leader: Chris
#852 ” When the Roll is Called Up Yonder”
#23 “Our God, He Is Alive”
#349 “Ten Thousand Angels”
Talk/Prayer-bread: Carl
Prayer-fruit of the vine: Carl
Prayer-collection: Howard
#2 “We Praise Thee, O God”
Scripture Reading: Alfred - Phillippians 3:12-13
Lesson: Don Alan - “Straining Toward the Goal ”
#915 “Trust and Obey”
#851 “I’ll Fly Away”
Closing Prayer: Alfred

Next Sunday: 12/10

Welcome: Don
Opening Pray: Don
Song Leader: Garth
Talk/Prayer-bread: Howard
Prayer-fruit of the vine: Howard
Prayer-collection: John
Scripture Reading: Chris - Phillippians
Lesson: Don Alan - “Overcoming Challenges with Confidence” ”

Closing Prayer:Chris

November 26, 2023

Bible Class	11
Morning Worship	24
Wed. Bible Class	5
Contribution:	\$635.00
Weekly Ave. Needed	\$733.00
Willsboro Sr. Center Service	-

October→November Averages; 1 Year Ago

Sun. Bible Class Ave. 19→13; 14
Sun. AM Worship Ave. 29→24; 26
Wed. Bible Class Ave. 9→6; 8
Weekly Contribution \$872.08→\$736.75; \$775.00
Yearly Contribution Ave. (13 weeks) \$821.62