

Church of Christ

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

July 8, 2018

BEFORE AND AFTER

I'm sure that you've seen those before and after pictures in ads for diet pills. The before picture always features some tremendously out-of-shape obese guy. The after picture then shows him looking trim, sculpted, and usually holding out the waistband of his old pants, which are now many sizes too big. The ad then tells the story about how this particular diet plan melted off the pounds in record time.

Whether or not you believe those amazing testimonials, there is an even more amazing before and after picture that is not only believable but available as well. It's the picture of your life before and after Jesus.

The before picture would show how purposeless, sometimes burdened, often confused, searching, and sinful your life really was. The Bible is pretty clear about our condition before we met Jesus. It describes us as being lost, broken, guilty, condemned, and even "enemies" of God (Col. 1:21).

But then we met Him. Realizing that He wasn't chasing us down with the sheriff's posse to lock us up for our sin, we repentantly responded to His amazing offer of mercy and grace. Thanks to Jesus, our before picture now lays in pieces amidst the rubble of our past lives, and we have the privilege of stepping up to have our after snapshot taken.

But, I wonder—what would that picture look like?

Ephesians 2:10 describes the after picture in a simple, yet profound way. Paul writes that as a result of being saved by His grace, "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus." God is the

new designer for our lives—a kind of divine personal trainer! And what does He desire to make our lives look like the after picture? Our text goes on to say that we have been "created in Christ Jesus to do good works."

When Scripture talks about "good works," it's a lot more than going to church every Sunday and tithing. Good works are actions that reflect God's mercy, grace, compassion, and righteousness. It's the action of loving others, even when they aren't all that loveable; forgiving; reaching out to the poor and disadvantaged; caring for the lost and the losers; being patient and tolerant with the faults and failures of others; serving the needs of others without clamoring for applause; providing the fruits of righteousness for those around us to be blessed by.

Here's a good way to think of it. Our after picture ought to be a duplicate picture of the good works that God has so generously showered on us. In fact, His good works in our lives are like a workout seminar on how to treat and respond to others.

When I see the after pictures in diet ads, I often wonder what the person looks like now. Believe me, I know what it's like to trim down only to lose sight of the goal and add pounds on again. So, let's not lose sight of the goal.

You've been saved to be an ad for the glory of God's goodness in your life and His good work through you to the lives of others. So what's your after picture looking like today? Shed the excess fat of your past and let His glory show!

PRAY FOR...

Baker, Helen: Melinda's mother, health
Bennett, Jim: health
Boula, Pat: Chris C's friend-heart valve replacement
Burna, Jennifer: Carl & Cindy's cousin, cancer
Cech, Matthew and Terry: health
Collins, Mary: Patty's friend, struggles
Eagle, Joanne: Marlana's mother-heart blockage
Elders: Alfred and Doug
Forette, Kevin: John's friend, cancer
Gundrum, Eloise: one year-old, cancer
Hagen, Cindy: new walk with Christ
Jackson, Jessah: Amber's friend's daughter, leukemia
Kashorek, Lori: strength during chemo for lung cancer
Lapier, Lisa: Patty's neighbor, lung cancer
Laramy, Paul: Steven's brother, motorcycle accident
Lebeau, Steve & Gail: John's friends, health struggles
Lemineau, Sean: Carl and Cindy's relative, struggles
LePage, Jim Sr. and Gail: Jim L's parents, health
Loss: friends & family of Alfred's sister-in-law
Miller, Lody: struggles
Missions: Brazil, Ghana, Malawi, Ukraine, Zambia
Nelson, Barb: Alex & Nick's grandmother, cancer
Page, Gary: Garth's friend, sick
Recovery: Eddie Bickford & Jean Buskey
Richardson, Elizabeth: Eddie's sister, health
Rice, John: Jim's neighbor, cancer
Snelson, Kelby: Nikki's niece, hip replacement
Spencer Carrie: Alfred's niece, health
Stapleton, Katelyn: health
Stowe, Kayonna: Nikki's niece's friend, cancer
Taylor, Robert Jr. Nikki's dad's preacher friend, dying
Travelner, Malinda Stone, Marlana Buskey
Whitfield, Freda: Mary Chambers' mother, health

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

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www.plattsburghchurch.com

shepherds serving under the Good Shepherd:
Alfred Chambers, 901-205-8584
Doug Kashorek, preacher, 563-0835
c645-1509

available: by appointment

Schedule of Services
Sunday
Bible Class 10 A.M.
Morning Worship 11 A.M.

Wednesday

Welcome to Worship

The church of Christ that meets in Plattsburgh invites you to attend any of our services. We love having visitors and are honored for you to attend. We seek to follow the New Testament in all that we do in our worship services. Our primary aim in worship is to glorify and honor God by worshipping Him "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24) Trusting in the promise of the gospel message, we now live out obedience to God's Word as our only authority and pattern for our lives and the church. We want to encourage you to come and learn, worship, grow, and serve the Lord with us! "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1).

From the Shepherds ...

Summer's underway! Lots of plans and time is short! After General A and B Weeks, we'll enjoy a day at Point Au Roche with some VT churches on 7/21, and then on 8/11, we'll have a teachers' workshop (for all who work with youth) before our 8/28-30 B2BS and fall classes.



We've Got Class!

Join us Next Sunday at 10 a.m. for:
Adults: John's class--Search For Truth, lesson 11
Youth classes as well ... and don't forget to meet at Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Munchie Moments

Fellowship Meal: our next 4th Sunday meal is Saturday, 7/21, at the picnic at Point Au Roche with the VT brethren.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: our next 1st Sunday MPB is on 8/5 at 8 a.m.

Camp Hunt Corner

The nine plus Taylor and John are attending General B Week until Saturday.

Doug's Devotional

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others"

Philippians 2:4.

An elderly gentleman asked me recently, as I held the bank door open for him, if there was a Volkswagon dealership nearby. I told him I didn't know, but having a smartphone on me, I was able to look up the answer within seconds. What if I had taken a more selfish approach? What if I considered my time more valuable to me than holding a door or finding out for him? I could have just told him, "I don't know," and been on my way sooner, leaving him to find out for himself. Don't we do this with the gospel? We believed that we were dead in our sins and that Jesus' sacrifice alone could save us. Having obeyed the words of eternal life, why do we selfishly keep them to ourselves? Are we ashamed of the gospel? Are we afraid of what others may think of us? It needs to start with us, yes. We need to be living our obedience to the gospel that we've obeyed and understand it well enough to share it with others who desperately need it. The elderly man was glad that I used my "frizzly-frazzly" thing to help him and knew where to go. Are you looking to the interests of others?

**SOCIETY SAYS,
"LOOK OUT FOR
YOURSELF,"
BUT GOD SAYS,
"LOOK OUT FOR
OTHERS AND
I WILL LOOK
OUT FOR YOU."**

Sundae Toppings

Today: 12:30 p.m. Ladies' Time
7/15, Family Meeting
7/21, Fellowship Picnic
7/29, 5th Sunday
8/5, 8 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast



The Oasis Project

... is done for the summer! If you'd like to volunteer for next fall, let Doug or Mary Cl know.

Mission Moment

- Please pray for all our mission works.
- Roger & Mitzi are in Malawi now for a couple of weeks.

2018 Weekly Bible Reading Plan



Day 190- Song of Songs 5-8; Is. 1
Day 191-Isaiah 2-6
Day 192-Isaiah 7-11
Day 193-Isaiah 12-16
Day 194-Isaiah 17-21

What major things do you learn from these prophets?



Mark Your Calendar

7/7-7/14, Camp Hunt General B Week
7/9, Alex's birthday
7/10, Cindy's birthday
7/14, Sophie's birthday
7/19, Lori's birthday
7/20, Rose's birthday
7/21, Point Au Roche picnic with VT churches
7/30, Hogan anniversary ('16)
7/31, Marlaina's birthday
8/?, Alfred's birthday in Christ ('69)
8/8, Gracelyn's birthday
8/11, Teaching Workshop
8/26-29, Back-2-Bible School

Today: 7/8

Announcements: Doug
Opening Prayer: Jim L
Song Leader: Alfred
#905, "Yield Not to Temptation"
#589, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"
#166, "He's My King"
Talk/bread prayer: Carl
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Tyler
Pass/collection prayer: Howard
#800, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
Scripture Reading: Chris - Philippians 2:3-5
Lesson: Doug "But Also to the Interests of Others"
#987, "I Want to Be Ready"
Closing Song: Garth
#611, "Heavenly Sunlight"
Closing Prayer: Jim B
Subs: JBW, SS

Next Sunday: 7/15

Announcements: Jim B
Opening Prayer: Garth
Song Leader: Chris
Talk/bread prayer: John
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Alfred
Pass/collection prayer: Carl
Scripture Reading: Howard - 2 Peter 3:14-16
Lesson: Doug "As They Do the Other Scriptures"
Closing Song: Jim L
Closing Prayer: Steven

Wash & Wear

- the cleaning and mowing sign-up for this season is on the fridge. Taking a turn is appreciated & needed.
- the church's blue polo shirts in a variety of sizes are \$15 each (to cover cost only).

Week of July 1

Bible Class	29
Morning Worship	42
Wed. Bible Class	-
Contribution	\$958.00
Weekly Ave. Needed	\$575.00