

Church of Christ

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

August 5, 2018

CONNECTEDLY CHALLENGED

I'll never forget the time I bought a new stereo system. I brought the boxes home and carefully unwrapped each piece of equipment. I spread everything out on the floor. There it was—wires and all. But halfway into the assembling project I realized I needed some serious help. Believe me, I am a technological idiot; when it comes to connecting in digital world, I'm in serious trouble!

Most of us are a lot like that spiritually. We have all the equipment we need to connect to an intimate and fulfilling relationship with the only One who is tailor-made to make great music out of our lives. But most of us never quite seem to get it figured out. So here are some pointers.

The intimacy with God we were built to enjoy begins by realizing that our relationship with Jesus is the key to getting connected. As He said in John 14:6, "No one comes to the Father except through me." And then in John 15:1-27 he paints a profound picture of what that looks like (I find pictures are really helpful in set-up manuals), by telling us that we are like branches and that He is the vine. All the resources we need to prosper and bear fruit come from entwining our entire being—mind, will, intellect, emotions, and attitudes—into Jesus. And then He concludes the connection instructions by telling us that the key to letting the music flow is our unflinching obedience to Him in every aspect of our lives.

Jesus says, "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love" (John 15:10). The payoff of finally getting connected is that we will experience the deep-down joy that only He can give as a reward for obediently staying wired to Him. He assures us, "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11).

Perhaps you can imagine the joy I felt when a friend came over to get me out of my digital mess. And the music was spectacular!

When you think of your spiritual journey, I wonder if you feel frustrated and wound up in wires that go nowhere, leaving you disappointed and doubting if your Christianity will ever work? Check in with the "intimacy expert." Jesus welcomes you to listen to His advice for your life and then to hook up by obeying all of His directives. Directives about how to deal with your enemies, your family, your finances, your weird boss, and anything or anybody else that crosses your path. As it is with digital equipment, there are no alternatives. If the wires aren't plugged into the right place, it just won't work.

And, one other thought: When I can't get something to work I always know that it's not the manufacturer's fault. They knew just how to make the equipment. So if God seems far away and there is little or no music in your heart, it's not God's fault. We were pre-wired to fellowship with Him in harmonious obedience!

Joe Stowell
getmorestrength.org

PRAY FOR...

Baker, Helen: Melinda's mother, health
Ballard, Nicki: moving
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: Marlaina's mother-heart blockage
Elders: Alfred and Doug
Forette, Kevin: John's friend, cancer
Gundrum, Eloise: one year-old, cancer
House Fire: Patty's neighbors, help needed
Jackson, Jessah: Amber's friend's daughter, leukemia
Kashorek, Lori: strength during chemo for cancer
Lapier, Lisa: Patty's neighbor, lung cancer
Laramy, Paul: Steven's brother, motorcycle accident
Lebeau, Steve & Gail: John's friends, health struggles
Lermineau, Sean: Carl and Cindy's relative, struggles
LePage, Jim Sr. and Gail: Jim L's parents, health
Miller, Jody: 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: job search
Stowe, Kayonna: Nikki's niece's friend, cancer
Taylor, Robert Jr.: Nikki's dad's preacher friend, dying
Warrick, Oaklyn: 1 year-old, heart surgeries
West, Larry: Melenda's friend in CA, health...
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 ...

Just one month to go on our budget, so we're pulling numbers together for 9/1. What projects or missions you'd like us to take on this coming year? On 8/11, we'll have a teachers' workshop (for all who work with youth) before our 8/26-29 Back-2-Bible School (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 will be 8/26 as part of B2BS.
Men's Prayer Breakfast: our next 1st Sunday MPB is on 9/2 at 8 a.m.

Budget & B2BS Prep

Doug will be out of town for the 8/19 Family Meeting, so on Wednesday, 8/22, he'll present the budget to start 9/1, leaving time for everyone to set up for Back-2-Bible School to begin that Sunday afternoon

Doug's Devotional

"... If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead" Luke 16:31.

I've heard it said that there will be no atheists in heaven. I suppose that's true as Scripture tells us that one day every knee will bow at the name of Jesus. The rich man in this parable found this out, but after death was too late for repentance. Believing that what Jesus reveals here about Judgment may be a bit symbolic yet truthful, there's a lot that we can glean. First, there is no way to change anything after death. The time for repentance is now while we still have breath. No one can do it for us, and God, who knows our hearts, accepts no excuses. We must work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. Second, a great chasm is fixed. There is no crossing over, which means no purgatory, no prayers of the living on your behalf, no penance that can be offered so that your stay might be shortened. Finally, we have what we need to come to repentance. The rich man's five brothers had Moses and the Prophets. We have the One who went to the cross for us and then rose from the dead. What will convince us to come to true repentance?



Sundae Toppings

Today: 8 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
8/12, 12:30 p.m. NO Ladies' Time
8/19, 12:30 p.m. Family Meeting
8/26, 3:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal



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 back from Malawi with lots to share.

2018 Weekly Bible Reading Plan



Day 218-Jeremiah 25-28
Day 219-Jeremiah 29-32
Day 220-Jeremiah 33-36
Day 221-Jeremiah 37-40
Day 222-Jeremiah 41-44

What major things do you learn from these prophets?



Mark Your Calendar

8/9, Gracelyn's birthday
8/11, Teaching Workshop
8/18, Jody's birthday
8/24, Stone anniversary ('84)
8/26-29, Back-2-Bible School
9/1, Fall Quarter: new budget/NYS officers
9/3, Labor Day Carpet Cleaning!

Corporate Elections

To maintain our tax-exempt status and to have legal representatives for our church, we will hold elections for officers at the 8/19 family meeting. This satisfies NYS law and has no bearing on the biblical governing of the Lord's church.

Today:8/5

Announcements: Carl
Opening Prayer: Jim B
Song Leader: Chris
#560, "Living By Faith"
#2, "We Praise Thee, O God"
#32, "Holy Is the Lord"
Talk/bread prayer: Steven
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Jim L
Pass/collection prayer: Tyler
#590, "Jesus Is All the World to Me"
Scripture Reading: Alfred - Luke 16:27-31
Lesson: Doug "Even if Someone Rises from the Dead"
#915, "Trust and Obey"
Closing Song: John
#959, "Just a Little Talk With Jesus"
Closing Prayer: Howard
Subs: GH, DK

Next Sunday: 8/12

Announcements: Alfred
Opening Prayer: Tyler
Song Leader: Steven
Talk/bread prayer: Garth
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Howard
Pass/collection prayer: Carl
Scripture Reading: Jim L - 1 Timothy 4:1-5
Lesson: Doug "Who Believe and Know the Truth"
Closing Song: Chris
Closing Prayer: Jim B

Week of July 29

Bible Class	23
Morning Worship	32
Wed. Bible Class	12
Contribution	\$597.00
Weekly Ave. Needed	\$575.00

June→July Averages; 1 Year Ago
Sun. Bible Class Ave. 23→22; 24
Sun. AM Worship Ave. 37→34; 38
Wed. Bible Class Ave. 14→11; 16
Weekly Contribution Ave. \$673.47→\$697.50; \$653.77
Yearly Contribution Ave. (48 weeks) \$666.49