

Church of Christ

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

August 5, 2018

LIVING IN THE PERFECT TENSE

One of my all-time favorite jokes is about the guy who was applying for a truck driver's job. As part of the oral exam to pass the driving test, the instructor said, "Let's say you and your sidekick Bob are going down a steep hill and all of a sudden your brakes go out, and at the bottom of the steep incline is a train stalled on the tracks. What would you do?"

The applicant replied, "I'd wake Bob up!"

Puzzled by his response, the instructor asked, "Why would you wake up Bob?"

"Well, me and Bob have traveled a lot of miles together and we have seen a lot of pretty spectacular wrecks, but Bob ain't never seen a wreck like the wreck that's going to happen at the bottom of the hill!"

This fallen, broken world we live in is a lot like a runaway truck without brakes—on its way to sure destruction. And I don't know about you, but I don't want to be caught sleeping in the passenger seat of that truck!

Thankfully, Paul makes it very clear that Jesus provided a way of escape from this fallen, destined-for-destruction world order. When he told the Corinthian believers in 2 Corinthians 5:17 that old things are passed away, he was talking about the old world order that is headed for judgment. And Paul uses the past tense to assure us that the certain doom is already accomplished. Thankfully, Jesus has already paid the price to avert our riding this world's 18-wheeler to disaster. It is historical fact, already accomplished for those who are in Christ.

What that means for those of us who are in Christ is that we are no longer in the death grip of

the "old things": All the dark seductions of our fallen world. All the lying and deceit. All the over-the-line sensuality and immorality. All the damage and despair caused by slavery to sin. This is all the old, outdated stuff that is marked for judgment and extinction.

Instead, we as His followers are part of a "new creation." When Paul proclaimed the good news that "the new has come," he used the perfect tense of the Greek language, indicating a past action with continuing results. In other words, there are ongoing ramifications of Jesus' past action to save us. In the perfect tense, His past action is intended to continue to produce results; results that reflect the new order of a life in the grip of Jesus' love. New stuff like honesty, purity, forgiveness, generosity, servanthood, faithfulness, and compassion for those who are sleeping in the passenger seat of the runaway truck. His process of making us into a new creation is ongoing, anchored in the historical bedrock of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. That means that we as His followers are, in a sense, a "work in progress" looking more and more like His new creation all the time.

At the start of this new year, it's a good time to ask if your life looks more like the old or more like the new. As a "new creation" in Jesus, what are the results in your life that clearly reflect His new way of living? Let's wake up to the fact that we don't belong to the darkness of this fallen world, and gladly embrace the new dynamics that God wants to create in our lives.

Live to make progress in the perfect tense of Christ's finished work and make it a New Year that will be a lot more like the new and a lot less like the old.

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
Traveling: Kashorek's and Mary Clackler
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 ...

We’re pulling numbers together for 9/1. What projects or missions you’d like us to take on this coming year? We hope everyone had the chance to attend our teachers’ workshop yesterday. On 8/26-29, we’ll have our Back-2-Bible School (B2BS) with fall classes to follow.



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

“For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer” 1 Timothy 4:4-5.

Out of context, these verses might make us think that God is okay with anything that we might do—even sin if approached in the proper way. But, it is speaking about the binding of things that God has not bound in the name of being “extra-spiritual.” People who do this are described as “abandon[ing] the faith” and “hypocritical liars” who “follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.” Rather, in order for us to have “life to the full,” God wants us to enjoy our freedom in Christ. We are not to go the opposite direction and loosen where God has not loosened, such as using our freedom to indulge the sinful nature. It challenges us instead to not allow our Christian walk to be about ritual or externals. It makes us dive deeper into our core values as those “who believe and who know the truth” must edify others with the truth from our belief, adding to that God’s benevolence of forgiveness, mercy, and grace, so that we might have true reason to reach out to them with the gospel. How do you live out your faith?

Kashoreks Traveling

Doug will be gone next Sun. (8/19) and Wed. (8/22) as he and Lori are taking a trip to celebrate their 25th anniversary. Alfred will preach, and John will lead the family meeting.

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.

Sundae Toppings

Today: 12:30 p.m. NO Ladies’ Time
8/19, 12:30 p.m. Family Meeting
8/26, 3:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
9/2, 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.
- Please pray for Mary’s readers to have open hearts in Varadzin, Croatia

2018 Weekly Bible Reading Plan



Day 225-Jeremiah 45-48
Day 226-Jeremiah 49-52
Day 227-Lamentations 1-4
Day 228-Lam. 5; Ezekiel 1-3
Day 229-Ezekiel 4-7

What major things do you learn from these prophets?



Mark Your Calendar

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!
9/13-15, Camp Hunt Ladies’ Retreat
9/20-22, Camp Hunt Men’s Retreat
9/25, Oasis begins each Tues. & Thurs.
9/28-30, Albany Youth Rally

Today:8/12

Announcements: Alfred
Opening Prayer: Tyler
Song Leader: Steven
#712, “Jesus is Coming Soon”
#650, “Send the Light”
#331, “Blessed Redeemer”
Talk/bread prayer: Garth
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Howard
Pass/collection prayer: Carl
#469, “Faith Is The Victory”
Scripture Reading: Jim L - 1 Timothy 4:1-5
Lesson: Doug “Who Believe and Know the Truth”
#837, “I Need Thee Every Hour”
Closing Song: Chris
#587, Sing and Be Happy”
Closing Prayer: John
Subs: JB, DK

Next Sunday: 8/19

Announcements: John
Opening Prayer: Jim B
Song Leader: Garth
Talk/bread prayer: Carl
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Chris
Pass/collection prayer: Jim L
Scripture Reading: Howard - 1 Samuel 30:6
Lesson: Alfred “Where Could I Go?”
Closing Song: Steven
Closing Prayer: Tyler

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 August 5

Bible Class	21
Morning Worship	31
Wed. Bible Class	13
Contribution	\$582.00
Weekly Ave. Needed	\$575.00