

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

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**Lancelot Watson- Evangelist**

Worship Opportunities

Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

Mid-Week

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

### Patchogue Church of Christ Patchogue, NY 11772

A multi-racial community of believers with a purpose and vision to live holy lives, fulfill the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ by serving each other and our community with compassion, love and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ.

Records you Made:	3/01/15	2/22/15
Bible Classes	42	15
Worship Service	97	56
Contribution	\$2414.00	\$1340.00
Wed Bible Class	32	32
Baptisms/Placing membership	-	-

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. Ro 16:16

## Youth Corner

By  
Jamal Colson



### What is the Kingdom of God Like?

This is an interesting question. Take a few minutes to think it over. How would you answer? Maybe the kingdom of God is like a school, or team in which all the people are working together toward a common goal. We might liken the Kingdom of God to Disney World; a place of rides, laughter, and new attractions. The Scriptures can teach us about the Kingdom of God, but we need to be open minded toward His Word:

Luke 13:18-19

**18 Then Jesus asked, "What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to? 19 It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches."**

Jesus teaches us about the Kingdom of God through comparisons so we can understand. Jesus says it is like a mustard seed. The mustard seed is something we cannot create or make on our own. That is the work of God's own creativity.

Jesus then teaches us that a man took it and planted in his garden. Our work is planting the garden, which is going out and sharing our faith. Planting and gardening may be difficult for us to relate to since we are not an agricultural town. However, difficult doesn't mean impossible.

In conclusion, we can learn from a farmer like in James 5, see how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. Young people lets all plant those seeds and watch; as God will turn the kingdom: His Church, into a tree where many will come and make their home.

## THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ  
295 Sunrise Service Road N.  
Patchogue, NY 11772.

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### The mission of the Church of Christ

***"Jesus said, 'My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.'" John 18:36***

To properly understand the mission of the Church, we need to accept the declaration of Jesus that His Church is a spiritual institution. Its values are not measured in dollars and cents. Its aim is not to create a better social order, but to transform individuals into the likeness of God. Through this transformation process the church prepares men and women to live with God throughout all eternity. It was never intended as an institution to make persons live longer or necessarily better on the earth, nor to endow us with more of this world's goods, or to enable a greater "fling" at romance, or to imbue us with worldly ambitions. The church is a spiritual institution, founded for the soul and spirit of humans. It is entered into by a spiritual birth; its blessings are of a spiritual nature - all of which go on forever. When we understand these facts we begin to grasp the meaning of Church as envisioned by Christ.

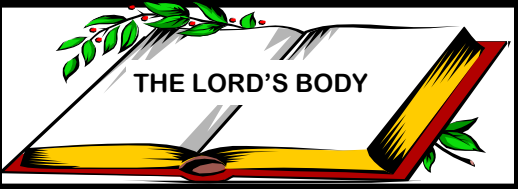
The church by its mission - which is worldwide and age-lasting, is not in the same category as the institutions of men. Other institutions seek to correct social evils of the society; to reform individuals who have behavioral challenges; to clean up the environment; campaign for increase in retirees' pension or for laws to be modified. All of these are worthy causes, but the work of the Church far surpasses any or all of these. The church's mission is to preach the gospel to the entire world (Mk. 16:15-16); this is the means of regenerating and recreating all who receive it.

The gospel does not merely *reform* men; it makes them "new creatures in Christ Jesus" (2 Cor. 5:17). It gives new life to those who are lost in sin (Eph. 2:1-5); it is the means by which men and women are translated out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God's dear Son (Col. 1:13).

When a person is born again (John 3:3-5), she has a new nature, a nature that needs no further reformation. She has no difficulty in getting along with other people; she is honest in her dealings, upright in her life, generous in her service, and noble in her deeds. All these and more are implied in the new creation. The gospel goes to the very root of all our troubles and when we obey it, God takes away our old nature, cleanses our souls with His blood and gives us a new lease on life (Ezek. 36:26-27). This is the mission of the Church.

It does not stop with the correction of surface evils; it removes the cause - the evil roots - and plants a new nature - the divine nature - in its place (2 Pet.1:3-4). When the gospel of Christ, which is "the seed of the kingdom" (Lk.8:11), is planted in the hearts of men and women, it produces fruit far superior to any other institution. This is the mission of the Church, a mission to which you and I are called. Let us honor it and glorify our Lord by so doing. ***"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age."*** (Matthew 28:19-20).

Lancelot W.



Privileged to Serve 03/08/2015

Morning Service

Song leader	Greg Watkins
Welcome/Prayer	Jason Holfman
Song #	396
Scripture –	Heb. 6:9-12
Songs #	480
Song #	528
Second Prayer	John Sicignano
Song #	364
Lord’s table and Collection:	
Lead	John Stallworth
Assistant	Barry Koeber
Assistant	John Sicignano
Assistant	Tyler Downy
Song - Kids to class	
Song #	
Scripture -	2 Pet. 1:5-11
Sermon -	Brian Maddox
	Derek Peterson

Invitation # 800  
Responses & prayer:  
Jason Harper  
Mike Salimbene  
Announcements &  
Closing Prayer John Stallworth

**The Gospel Truth**

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**The family**  
**by**  
**John Stallworth**

**“I don’t wanna ... be Peaceful”**

Gal. 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience ... Against such things there is no law.

We still ask: if these are “fruit of the spirit”, how are non-Christians able to do these things. ‘Peace’ is one of the most treasures. Now, what does it mean? Paul will say Bible peace is to rule our hearts. (Col. 3:15) He will say it “transcends all understanding” and guards our hearts and minds. (Phil. 4:7, 8) Powerful Bible word.

Matt. 5:9 blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

Mathew says we are blessed. The fact is: **a peacemaker is one who makes peace!** There are many things which come between Disciples of Christ. The worst are pride, selfish desire and envy. James challenges us with Godly wisdom.

Jam. 3:17-18 But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. 18 Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

We can be like the world to let any and everything come between us. We can let past /current hurts and old scares divide us. These things even creep into our marriages and destroy them. **Who will make peace?** If we learn from our Lord who in the midst of being nailed to the cross, said: “Father forgive them...” Wow. One thing we realize is: ‘Bible peace’ takes a “peacemaker”. Jesus is the peacemaker between God and man; peace made by his blood on the cross. James points out peaceMAKERS will produce a harvest of righteousness. Notice v18, peacemakers ‘sow’ peace.

In Ephesians 4, Paul challenges us to let NO bitter root grow within us. If you have been hurt, hold a grudge, whatever: “let the peace of Christ RULE your heart and get rid of it and forgive. Do whatever it is that leads to peace. You will be BLESSED for it! Do you have some peace to make?

**Do you know what the Spirit is calling you to do? Do it!**

Eph. 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.



*LIVING IT OUT—  
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY  
BY  
BENJAMIN FIELD*

**Trying Too Hard. Not Trying Hard Enough**

**Ephesians 2:8-10**

<sup>8</sup>For by grace you are saved through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God; <sup>9</sup>it is not from works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are His workmanship, having been created in Christ Jesus for good works that God prepared beforehand so we may do them.”

One of the three parts of the whole entity of God planned to live a human existence. THE God became just a little better than an animal, and took on a lower form that was a faint reflection of the image of Himself. He left the wholeness of Himself, and a portion of the I AM was voluntarily humiliated. He was lowered to a status that was below angels. Just imagine how His angels must have desired to enforce reverence for Him while He was on the Earth.

During this 33 year period, although the Trinity was one, it is undeniable that the God of the Universe chose to exist, just once, in a separated state, and to have a portion of Himself live a separated existence from the Whole. That one portion, the Son, was subjected to the pain of the world, and to the will of mankind. It is the only time in known history that the Trinity chose to fragment Itself. **Remember Ephesians 2:8-10 and keep it by your heart when you serve God. There is nothing we can do to earn the right to balance the scales of God or to equal the measure of the value of this gift. “You were bought at a price.”**

If we give to the poor and think this garners God’s admiration, we are wrong. If we evangelize every day, and think each baptism evidences our state of salvation, we are dead wrong. If we travel to foreign lands and think that our missions are evidence of our faith and humility, we are wrong. If we think our church “projects” and ministries make for a holiness that will gain “points” or favor with the Almighty, we are wrong. If we think our job is to direct the actions and direction of the Lord’s church, we are **fearfully** wrong. If we trust our own understanding as sufficient, we are wrong.

So do we give up? No. Every action and ministry to the Lord **should be service that is a direct expression to God of gratitude we have for His free gift. Our only acceptable offering before God is the recognition of the unfathomable price He paid, and choosing to act according to what Ephesians said He already prepared for us. Yes, your ministry is predestined.** Our ministries can only be acceptable if it is an expression of thanks to God. Any other view is very dangerous. Besides, it results in less personal pressure, and a more fruitful and consistent service to God.



**ladies’ Corner**  
**by**  
*Paulette Watson*

**Developing a Submissive Spirit**

One characteristic of the church that typifies the intrinsic nature of femininity in God’s eyes is the quality of being submissive. Paul indicates that as the bride of Christ, the church is submissive to Christ. Submissiveness, therefore, should be a quality in brides and a quality in all Christian women. What are some things we should work on to develop and perfect the Christian quality of submissiveness?

Paul tells us, “In humility consider others better than yourselves. (Phil. 2:3). If we practice thinking of others as better than we are, this will help us to submit to each other. One reason submissiveness is difficult is that we often do not see why we should yield to another’s wishes. We believe that as we are all equal, we have a right to have our way as much as any one else. However, we develop a submissive spirit when we recognize that “selfish ambition, vanity, and conceit” (Phil. 2:3) prevent us from thinking of others better than ourselves.

We are instructed to “bear each other’s burdens” (Gal. 6:2). Doing this also helps to develop a submissive spirit. Following this instruction requires putting ourselves in the other person’s shoes, making every effort to understand, and taking it upon ourselves to suffer with the other person in order to ease the pain or hardship being experienced. Trying to domineer over each other works against bearing each other’s burdens and is the opposite of having a submissive spirit.

A submissive spirit means to be yielding – willing and ready to do whatever needs to be done to advance Christ’s mission and purpose – the saving of souls. As sisters in Christ when we submit to each other we help to build each other up. In addition, by practicing to be submissive we are working on having “the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit,” which Peter states should be the focus of our womanly beauty (1Pet. 3:4). Let us work hard to develop the quality of submissive-