

## ***Don't give up!***

There is a certain inevitability about the direction that mankind is taking. Jesus said: "*Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes!*" Matthew 18:7.

The ultimate inevitability, as far as this world is concerned, is that Jesus Himself will be revealed at any time to execute judgment upon mankind. In the meantime the reality is that those of us who hold to the testimony of Jesus Christ will just have to bear the torment of watching as the world moves further and further away from any pretense of godliness. That torment is tempered by the knowledge that judgment and vindication are inevitable. Add to that the sure hope of a resurrection to eternal life for the church of Christ, and one is caused to wonder why we are troubled. Why does someone like me feel the need to speak out against unrighteousness? If sin is inevitable and punishment of sin is also inevitable, and the good guys are inevitably saved, why not just sit back and watch the show unfold? Should I care if the majority of people in this country have accepted human sacrifice (abortion) and abominable sexual activity (homosexuality) in their service to the god of "free choice"? Why don't I just mind my own business?

I'll tell you the reason: it is because of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The inevitability of the cross is something that all of us have to reckon with. The cross tells me that God loves this world enough to pay such a price to save souls, no matter how few they may be. The cross tells me that God has a hard time giving up on anybody, even me. So, if you are having a hard time with the way this nation is going, don't be surprised, and don't give up. Remember that he saved the likes of you and me from that inevitable sin. Furthermore, if these souls, who now support such things as abortion and homosexuality, repent and turn to the LORD, He will certainly forgive them. Those who promote such activities and demand that we, as a nation, accept them may well be in a different category. As Jesus said, "Woe to them by whom offenses come." But those who stumble because of the temptation and deceit of Satan, and who genuinely repent of their sin, will find the God who gave His Son for our sins a loving God indeed. God provided the sacrifice once for all so that anyone who comes to Him through His Son, Jesus Christ, can be saved - and that's just inevitable!

**Scripture Reading:** Hebrews 11:8-16

**Hymns:** 882 - No Tears in Heaven; 851- I'll Fly Away; 332- Lead me to Calvary; 470-Victory in Jesus; 934- Softly and Tenderly.



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, evangelist- (607) 280-1732

September 6, 2015

## **WELCOME!**

Sunday Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.



- **Today's Sermon: Renegades and Refugees**
- Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.
- Bulletins are archived on the website.

**[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)**

**[aicoc.org](http://aicoc.org)**

## UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Men's Breakfast**, Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Ladies Class** will resume this Tuesday, September 8th. Sandy will facilitate the lesson from pages 105-111 of our study book. Please invite friends!
- Our usual **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Potluck** will take place on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.



- **We have classes for children!** Cindy and Megan Patrick have decorated classrooms, planned lessons and taught lessons already! Thank you, ladies! **We can use help!** Teachers, crafters, organizers and other kinds of helpers would be greatly appreciated. Let's make the best of having children amongst us as the result of the huge effort that went into the VBS!
- **Felicity Hicks** from Sayre **was baptized into Christ** on Monday! Please welcome our new sister in Christ when you see her.
- We have more **visitors** from Kittanning, PA with us today.

## PRAYERS...

- Please pray that Emily Barry, Arthur and Sandy's daughter of Palmer, AK, is able to get a job and an apartment soon. She has some good prospects.
- Pray that our two newest brother and sister in Christ continue to seek God's wisdom in their lives and that we can help.
- Pray for our children's classes that are getting started and for the teachers.
- Pray for Katie Grissies, the friend of Tiffany Cantrell from Prattville, AL, who was pregnant and has cancer. She had her baby a few weeks ago and is now going through an aggressive form of chemo, which is making her really ill. Her little girl, however, is in perfect health.
- Pray for Michelle Klein in Tunkhannock who is slowly recovering from a debilitating case of Lyme disease.
- Amy Palmer, from Kittanning, is a young woman who recently gave birth and then had a severe epileptic seizure and lapsed into a coma. After three weeks, her ventilator was removed, and although very weak, appears to be making a recovery.
- Rhonda Washburn's friend, Brenda Clair's son, Phillip, of East Midfield, PA, is continuing to have tests on his liver to determine the cause of the golf ball sized non-cancerous tumor he has.
- Suzie Temple, who came from Milton, FL to knock doors, has a sister-in-law, Martha Todd, with secondary breast cancer that has spread to her lungs and brain. She is not expected to recover.
- Darlene Elsbree has a choice of two surgical procedures to correct some problems she has been dealing with. She will make a choice by mid October and have surgery in mid November.
- Marilyn Patrick, Tom's mother in SC, who recently had surgery for colon cancer, had a minor stroke last week and was again in hospital. Tom and Cindy along with Ryan and Megan have all gone down to help.
- Ron Moulton is in a lot of pain daily from his MD.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry [barnecat7237@gmail.com](mailto:barnecat7237@gmail.com) or text or call (607) 261-0911.