

Membership Has Its Privileges

“Now you are the body of Christ and members individually
1 Corinthians 12:27

People join themselves to other people for all sorts of reasons, but the general principle behind all clubs and organizations is that there is strength in numbers. That is the benefit for the group; but what is the benefit for the individual? The individual needs to know that he or she enjoys privileges that only those who are members of the group are eligible to enjoy.

There is an unlimited assortment of groups that any of us could join. However, we must ask ourselves what it is that we must put in, and what it is that we get out of membership. The Lord’s Church is an earthly organization that has headquarters in Heaven. There are very specific terms of membership in the Lord’s church which discourage many from joining, but there are also amazing privileges. I have never been invited to dine at the White House, and I probably never will be, but every week I get to come to the Lord’s Table and join in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. There are many members of the Lord’s church and they are spread all over the planet, but we are all in agreement about the LORD and we have all submitted to His commands.

We recognize the value of the privileges that He extends to the members of His Body. When we come to the Table, we celebrate His death and we will do so until He comes again. When He comes again, He will transform our lowly bodies to be like His glorious body and He will take us to the home of our Heavenly Father. And, because we share in His Table here, we will share in His House for all eternity.
Membership has its privileges.

It is vital that people understand that membership is open to anyone who wants to be a Christian and who is willing to comply with the will of the LORD. The Bible tells us that these commands are not burdensome (1 John 5:3) and that means that God makes sure those membership qualifications can be met by anybody who wants to meet them. It is also vital to understand that if you are not a member then you are not eligible for the privileges. Heaven will not be your home and therefore you should not be at the Lord’s Table now, but it is your choice.

There is no way for me to eat the fare from the table at the White House. So far, no president has brought the White House into the home of any of our citizens...not even the kitchen or just the table. There is no “take-away” White House menu. But God has invited everyone to His weekly feast. Some think that cheapens the celebration, but some of us are just amazed at the privileges of membership in the Body of Christ. AB



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838
Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732
June 2, 2019

WELCOME!

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| <u>Sunday</u> | Bible Class- 9:30 a.m. Worship- 10:30 a.m. |
| <u>Tuesday</u> | Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m. |
| <u>Wednesday</u> | Bible Study-6:30 p.m. |

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today’s Sermon: *Three Siblings Minus One, Plus Jesus*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

aicoc.org (Antioch Initiative)

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Scripture: John 11:17-27

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** June 5th, Arthur will be continuing with our study of Ephesians. We are thinking about studying Galatians next.
- **Pancake Breakfast-** Saturday, June 8th. **Volunteers and donations needed!** This is an outreach activity which will take place here at the building.
- **5th Sunday Regional Singing-** the next one will be June 30th at Endwell.
- **Sojourners** here- July 8-18. We are planning a Gospel tent meeting in River Front Park during this time (12-14).
- **Athens Street Fair-** July 19th & 20th. **Volunteers needed** to help with our church booth during this event. This will be our 3rd year to participate.
- **VBS –** August 10th here at the building with volunteers from Kittanning and Camp Hill churches. **We will need cookies, drinks and snacks! Volunteers to help the day go smoothly are always welcome.**
- **Next Potluck: TBA**



NEWS

- **Men's Revival-Putting "man" Back in the Hood** was well-received and a great time of fellowship, sharing and admonition from the Word. Attendance was around 20 with visitors from far (AL) and near (Athens).
- Please make welcome this morning Andrew and Adam Gifford from the Dalraida church of Christ in Montgomery, AL. They are involved with support for our work here in Valley Cities.
- **Pancake Breakfast** on Saturday! Please come help serve the community for this great outreach using our building. Breakfast starts at 8:30 and continues until 10. Be here early to help with the cooking!

PRAYERS

- **Thank you, Father, for the wonderful men's revival!**
- **Ted** is still not feeling back to normal. We pray that he can get to feeling better.
- **Darlene** has been working with a lung specialist to deal with the coughing and other problems she has.
- **Jackie** has been suffering pain with arthritis.
- Pray for **Mark Elsbree**, who needs a kidney donor soon.
- Pray for **Marilynn Patrick** who is battling metastatic colon cancer. Also pray for her family.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** – lung cancer.
- Pray for **Lori Kashorek** –stage 4 lung cancer. Lori is very proactive in the battle to stay healthy and her latest MRI showed no new growth and smaller lymph nodes.
- **Erin Beiber** - metastatic breast cancer.
- Remember to pray for **Ronnie Jones** (stroke) and **Don Myers** (back pain). They both need our prayers.
- Please pray for a family who is feeling stressed following the loss of their father. **(prayer box)**
- Pray for our **Bible classes**, both Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.
- Pray for success for the **Endless Mountains** church in Tunkhannock as they have their **VBS** June 25th.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barnecat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.