

Reaching Beyond Ourselves

By Edd Sterchi

Reach: verb 1) stretch out an arm in order to touch or grasp something 2) be able to touch (something) with an outstretched arm or leg 3) arrive at or attain; extend to 4) make contact with 5) succeed in influencing or having an effect on (from the Oxford English Dictionary)

In the Lord's church, we are to be very concerned about reaching beyond ourselves. It is the Lord's will that we do so. It is the work of the church. It should be a labor of love for us. Notice that we are to...

...“reach down” in benevolence to help the less fortunate. As a church, we need to be compassionately doing good to all (Gal. 6:10; Heb. 13:16). As an extension of Christ upon the earth, we need to help others in His name.

...“reach up” in worship of God. As a church, we need to properly and sincerely glorify God in our praise of Him (John 4:24; Phil. 3:3). When we gather together as His people, we should sing and pray with heartfelt expressions of joy and thanksgiving.

...“reach in” in edification of one another. As a church, we realize that we are the family of God and it is important that we lovingly encourage one other (Rom. 14:19; 1 Thess. 5:11). When we strengthen our bond with each other, we strengthen the church.

...“reach out” in evangelizing the lost. As a church, we are to always proclaim the saving message of the gospel of Christ to one and all (Matt. 28:18-20; 2 Tim. 4:2). The church that belongs to Christ should always be promoting Christ.

Indeed, let us as a church always be reaching beyond ourselves by reaching in every direction: up, down, in, out, and all around. Let us be concerned about honoring God and doing His will with every extension we make. Let us be busy and active – reaching, reaching, reaching. And let us, like Paul, always be “...reaching forward to those things which are ahead” (Phil. 3:13).



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

November 1, 2020

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: *Is There a Plan for Man?*

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc

Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:22-30

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** We are studying through the Book of Acts.
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class: November 4th,** at the building at 6:30. We will continue our study of Habakkuk. Please join us!
- **Sojourners: Mike and Nadine Huddleston, Larry and Kay Little and two other couples** hope to be here the last week in June and the first two weeks in July.



NEWS

- We are currently working on getting **House to House** leaflets mailed out to households in the Valley next month. **The Gospel of Christ** leaflet should be arriving any day now if it hasn't already been delivered.
- The **lounge area** adjoining the kitchen was **flooded** on Thursday, possibly because of a misplaced downspout. The old carpet has been removed and it has been suggested we lay matching linoleum to that in the kitchen and use an area rug between the couches. Please let the men know how you feel about this.
- The **Endless Mountains church** in Tunkhannock had a **baptism** last week!

- Arthur will be preaching today.

PRAYERS

- **Pray for our national election on Tuesday, November 3rd.** We should each spend time in prayer and meditation before voting.
- **Please pray for our country as we deal with the new surge of Covid 19 cases.**
- **Pray for Paul's sister Linda** as doctors decide how to proceed to deal with the mass in her abdomen. She is currently waiting for the results of a biopsy.
- **Pray for Ted** as he had a biopsy on his kidneys last week which indicated a low-grade cancer. Following the biopsy, he underwent a cryoablation procedure which will hopefully kill any cancer that was present.
- Pray for **John Chacona**, Ted's brother.
- Pray for **G.K. Pennington** and his wife Jo as they deal with his aggressive esophageal cancer. The doctors were not able to get all the cancer when they did his surgery, so he must undergo more chemotherapy as soon as his resection surgery heals.
- **Doug Kashorek has asked for prayers for himself and his wife Lori who has lung cancer.** Lori is on hospice care now. Their son Tim and his wife Rachel have also announced they are expecting a baby in June 2021.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.