

Can I Take His Place?

by Alan Smith

Joe, the Governor's most trusted assistant, died in his sleep one night. The Governor had depended on Joe for advice on every subject, from pending bills to wardrobe decisions. In addition, Joe had been his closest friend.

So, it was understandable that the Governor didn't take kindly to the droves of ambitious office seekers who wanted Joe's job. "They don't even have the decency to wait until the man is buried," the Governor muttered.

At the funeral, one eager beaver made his way to the Governor's side. "Governor," the man said, "is there a chance that I could take Joe's place?"

"Certainly," the governor replied. "But you'd better hurry. I think the undertaker is almost finished."

I'm sure we can all look around us and find a number of people of whom we have said, "I would like to take his/her place." But I dare say that you have never made that statement of someone who had died, or was about to die. Why would anyone want to trade places with someone like that? It is for that reason that God's love for us is so difficult to comprehend, for that is exactly what Jesus did for us.

"He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon him, and by his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53:5-6)

May our lives be forever lived in gratitude for the one who "took our place."



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

Arthur Barry, evangelist- (607) 280-1732

March 6, 2016

WELCOME!

Sunday Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.



Today's Sermon: *The Church That Jesus Built*

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

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

aicoc.org

Scripture: Matthew 16:13-20

Hymns: 399 Jesus Calls Us; **410** He Leadeth Me; **315** When I Survey The wondrous Cross; **129** Amazing Grace; **940** Only A Step

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class**, Tuesday, March 8th. Patty will lead the lesson on the eighth chapter of Esther.
- Next **Potluck Dinner**- March 20th.
- **Spiritual Giftedness Seminar**- April 23-25. Doug Hamilton from the Camp Hill church will present this program at the Grand Victorian Hotel and here at the building. The schedule is on the bulletin board.
- Arthur and Sandy are planning to attend the lectureship at Ohio Valley University from April 3-6. This is an opportunity to advertise the outreach efforts that are on-going in Northeast, PA.
- An exploratory team from the Antioch Initiative will be coming up to Tunkhannock, PA the first week in May to start making plans to plant a church there. Arthur has been scouting out possible meeting places for the group who will be gathering there.
- There will be a campaign in June to contact all interested people in the Tunkhannock area for Bible studies and worship.



- **NEXT WEEK!** Be sure to “spring forward”!



- Please welcome Emily Barry and her son, Aidan! They have moved back to the area from Palmer, AK and are staying with Arthur and Sandy in Dryden, NY.
- Rhonda Washburn has agreed to be our church bookkeeper, and was unanimously elected for the job last week. We are working with a local accountant to help us with taxes.

Don't pray for rain if you are going to complain about the mud.

PRAYERS...

- Ted Chacona has been having trouble with his heart lately and will be having a heart catheter either tomorrow or Tuesday.
- Darla Towell, Katie Barry's aunt, from the church in Soldotna, AK, has cancer in her liver and pancreas. She is not expected to recover, so has requested to be on comfort care. She is at home now.
- Lori Kashorek, wife of Doug, the preacher at the church in Plattsburg, has had a recurrence of lung cancer. She has had her third round of chemo and plans to continue her teaching job as long as she is able. She has asked for prayers.
- Please pray for the outreach effort of the Antioch Initiative to start a church in Tunkhannock, PA in the spring.
- Maxine Schiel is still having trouble with her knee, which is giving her pain.
- Eric Cimuchowski, the preacher at the Endwell church, has accepted a position in Victorville, CA, and will be taking his family there within a few weeks. Please pray for the church at Endwell during this time of transition.
- Please pray that Emily and Aidan will settle in well and have minimal problems with school and a job search.
- Our family and friends who need to be saved or restored to faith.

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

Man may whitewash himself, but only God can wash him white.