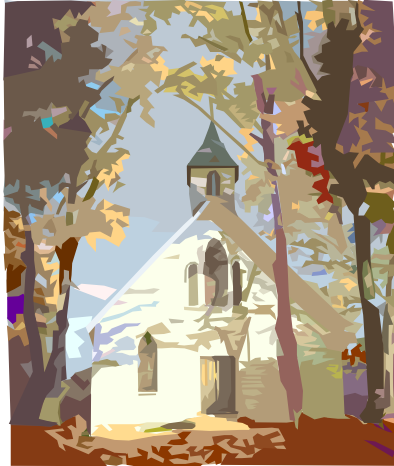


Sunrise Christian Church

October 2010 Family Newsletter



“Here’s the church, and here’s the steeple. Open the doors and see all the people!”



“.... the church, which is his (Christ’s) body, the fullness of him!” Eph. 1:22&23
The Perfect Church

I think that I shall never see
A Church that's all it ought to be;

A Church that has no empty pews,
Whose Pastor never has the blues;

A Church whose Deacons always Deke*
And none is proud but all are meek;

Where gossips never peddle lies
Or make complaints or criticize;

Where all are always sweet and kind
And all to other's faults are blind.

Such perfect churches there may be,
But none of them are known to me.

But still we'll work, and pray and plan
To make our Church the best we can!

*serve

Excuses, excuses

Excuses, excuses, you hear them everyday.
Now, the devil he'll supply them, if from church you stay away.
When people come to know the Lord, the devil always loses,
So to keep them folks away from church, he offers them excuses!

In the summer, it's too hot, and in the winter,
it's too cold.
And in the springtime, when the weather's just right,
You find some place else to go. Well, it's up to the mountain
Or down to the beach or to visit some old friend,
Or just to stay home and kinda relax and hope some of the kinfolks drop in.

Well, the church bench is too hard, and that choir sings way too loud.
And, boy, you know how nervous you can get when your settin' in a great big crowd.
The doctor told you you'd better watch them crowds, they'll set you back,
But you go to that ballgame, cause you say it helps you to relax.

Well, you have a headache Sunday morning
and a backache Sunday night.

Well, one of the children has a cold,
pneumonia, do you suppose?
Why the whole family had to stay home, just to blow that poor kids nose!

The preacher, he's too young, maybe he's too old.
His sermons, they're not fired enough, or maybe their too bold.
His voice is much too quiet, sometimes he gets too loud,
He needs to have more dignity or else he's way too proud.

His sermons, they're too long. Maybe, they're too short.
He ought to preach the Word with dignity,
instead of stomp and snort.

Why, one of the members told me the other day,
"He didn't even shake my hand!"

Over the hump to Christian maturity

During World War II there was a special group of aviators who flew what was known as the "Hump," they flew supplies over the Himalayan Mountains to American, British and Chinese forces fighting the Japanese. The problem though, was that between the height of the mountains, the danger of ever changing weather, and the limited capacity of their aircraft, the Allied forces had difficulty ferrying enough supplies over the mountains and therefore a road needed to be built. And built it was! Over dangerous heights and with a multitude of switchbacks, a road was craved through the jungle and up over the side of the mountains, down to the other side. And this was done mainly by hand! What looked impossible was made possible because of a group of laborers working together for a common cause. No different the church! When Paul wrote that Christ had given to the church "apostles, prophets, evangelists, and pastor and teacher," he also said that these were given to us for a purpose- "to prepare God's people for works for service." This, then, was to result in something, that they and we- the body of Christ, might be "built up." And what did Paul mean by "built up"? He tells us that it is that we reach "a unity of faith and knowledge in the Son of God." And by this we become "mature, attaining the whole measure of the fullness of Christ" (Eph 4:11-13). So in a manner of speaking, we also are to join together to build a much needed road, only this time over the mountains of our poorly formed faith and beliefs, so that Christian unity will be apparent

to believers and unbelievers alike! Because of this, your active participation is needed and required in order for Christ's command to succeed. Take time to examine yourself to see in what way have you been withholding your fellowship or have been unwilling to participate or contribute to the cause of the church. Then allow God to redirect your thoughts, actions, and response.

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The call of Christ

The church is called to a higher standard than is the outside world; we are to love not only God and Christ, but also each other! And yet love is an active word, it does not simply mean "affection," but also means being willing to working towards the good of another. For example, when asked as to who our neighbor was, Jesus responded with the story of the good Samaritan, who while on his way somewhere came across an injured man. This Samaritan stopped to help, bound up the man's wounds and then took him to a place where he could receive additional care. But notice what else he does, he gave the innkeeper money to look after the injured man, then added to that the promise that he would come back and pay whatever else was owed by the injured man (Lk. 10:35). Wouldn't you like to have a friend like this? We do- Christ! Now, go and do likewise! We live in a broken world, people do not do what they should, and therefore they and others are hurt. In truth, they have been deceived and mugged by Satan and now need our help! So, the question is, will you be a Good Samaritan to them? Will you receive Christ's praise of "**well done, good and faithful servant! Come and share in your master's happiness!**" Matt. 25:21

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Though he could work apart from the church, Christ chooses not to! He wants you and I actively involved in His plans!

The cross of Christ

Though the cross symbolizes death to many, and yet it symbolizes life to others. And the cross of Christ is to be shared by all who believe in him, Jesus said that to be worthy of him means to take up our crosses and follow him (Matt. 10:38). Are you willing? God wants us committed, not comfortable!

The Caring Enough to Share classes

On Saturday, September 18th, approximately 60 members from our local Christian Churches attended the **Caring Enough to Share classes** at SCC; doing so to learn how to share their faith in Christ with others. Clayne Beck shared on Jesus' prayer found in Jn.17, Ralph Pearson on whether you're a "casual or committed" Christian and Nick Hylton on knowing God's word. I shared on the great need in our area for us to share our faith, that although most Americans say they're Christian (78%), most do not attend church on a regular basis. And although attending church is the not the key as to whether a person is a Christian or not, don't you think that if they truly loved Jesus Christ then they would also love the things he loves- the church being part of this? This also means that with Ontario's population of nearly 10,500 people- many who are Buddhist, LDS, agnostic or atheists; that about 54 people die each year and go to hell because of their refusal to accept Jesus as LORD and Savior. So, do you care? If you do, then **the next Caring Enough to Share class will be November 20th at Valley Christian Church** in Fruitland. Make plans today to attend! And you don't have to have attended the first class to get something useful out

of this second one. Then if everything continues
as they seem, we will have a third class in
February or March. I'm looking forward to seeing
you there!