

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

Sunday Morning Service

- Song Leader Philip Steele
- Scripture Reading Jim Tobias
- Opening Prayer Jim Tobias
- Lord's Supper Jim Becker
- Closing Prayer Akel Marshall
- Closing Prayer Kelly Knepley

Sunday Evening Service

- Song Leader Akel Marshall
- Opening Prayer Tom Haddox
- Closing Prayer Philip Steele

Wednesday Evening Service, April 20th

- Song Leader Philip Steele
- Opening Prayer Akel Marshall
- Closing Prayer Philip Steele

Today's Sermons:

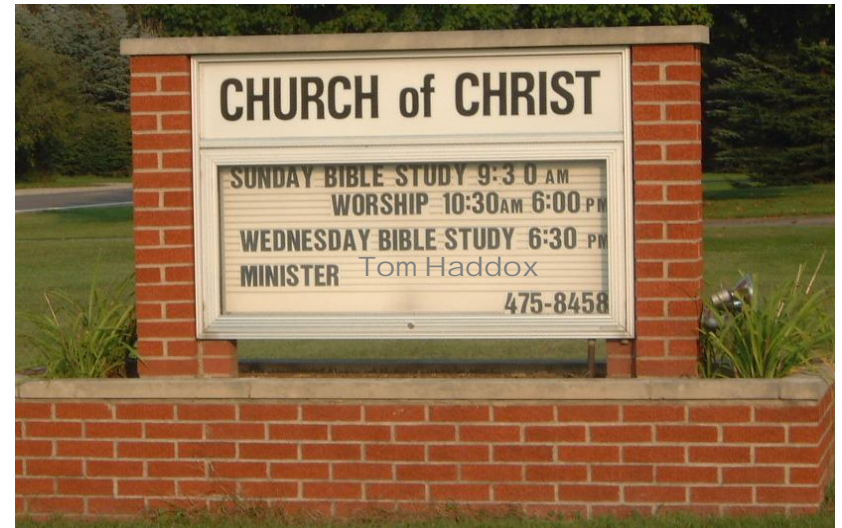
AM – A Community Without Condemnation
Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:1-5

PM – Is Obedience Essential to Salvation?

“Let Brotherly Love Continue”
Hebrew 13:1

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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SERVICES OF THE CHURCH

Sunday



Local Cable 18

@ 7:00 AM and 4:30 PM

Bible Class 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Message of Hope service
@ Chelsea Hospital 4:30 PM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class 6:30 PM

April 17, 2011

Humility: The Journey Toward Holiness

by Andrew Murray, preacher of the 1800's

There are three great motivations to humility: it becomes us as creatures; it becomes us as sinners; and it becomes us as saints. Humility is first seen in the angels, in man before the Fall, and in Jesus as the Son of Man. In our fallen state, humility points us to the only way by which we can return to our rightful place as creatures. As Christians, the mystery of grace teaches us that as we lose ourselves in the overwhelming greatness of redeeming love, humility becomes to us the consummation of everlasting blessedness.

It is common in Christian teaching to find the second aspect taught almost exclusively. Some have gone so far as to say that we must keep on sinning in order to remain humble! Others have thought that the strength of self-condemnation is the secret of humility. As a result, the Christian life has suffered where believers have not been guided to see that even in our relationships as creatures, nothing is more natural and beautiful and blessed than to be nothing in order that God may be everything. It needs to be made clear that it is not sin that humbles but grace. It is the soul occupied with God in His wonderful glory as Creator and Redeemer that will truly take the lowest place before Him.

If Jesus is to be our example in His lowliness, we need to understand the principles in which this quality is rooted and where we find the common ground to stand with Him. If we are to be humble not only before God but toward men, and if humility is to be our joy, we must see that it is not only the mark of shame because of sin, but apart from sin, it is being clothed with the very beauty and blessedness of Jesus. We will see that just as Jesus found glory in taking the form of a servant, so when He said to us, *"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant"* (Matthew 20:26), He was teaching us the truth that there is nothing so divine as being the servant and helper of all. The faithful servant who recognizes his position finds real pleasure in supplying the wants of the master or his guests. When we realize that humility is something infinitely deeper than contrition, and accept it as our participation in the life of Jesus, we will begin to learn that it is our true nobility, and that to prove it in being servants of all is the highest fulfillment of our destiny as men created in the image of God.

When I look back upon my own Christian experience, or at the church of Christ as a whole, I am amazed at how little humility is seen as the distinguishing feature of discipleship. In our preaching and in our living, in our daily interaction in our families and in our social life, as well as fellowship with other Christians, how easy it is to see that humility is not esteemed the cardinal virtue, the root from which grace can grow and the one indispensable condition of true fellowship with Jesus. The fact that it is possible for anyone to say of those who claim to seek holiness that the profession has not been accompanied with increasing humility, is a loud call to all earnest Christians, whatever truth there be in the charge, to prove that meekness and lowliness of heart are the chief marks by which they who follow the Lamb of God are to be known.

Upcoming Dates to Note:

- **VBS Planning Meeting** – May 1st @ 4 PM
- **Ladies' Class** – Tues, May 10th @ 10:00 AM
- **Potluck** – May 15th, immediately following AM service.
- **Monthly Men's Meeting** – immediately after Potluck.
- **Men's Breakfast** – Sat, May 14th, meet @ 7:30 AM for breakfast at Big Boy's followed by Bible Study in the fellowship hall.

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study (04/10) – 23
Sunday Morning Service (04/10) – 27
Sunday Evening Service (04/10) – 15
Wednesday Bible Study (04/13) – 18

Statistics:

Contribution Last Week (04/10) - \$874
Average Contribution (per week, up to 04/10) – \$983
2011 Weekly Contribution Goal – **\$990**

Remembrance in prayer:

- **Patients at Chelsea Head Pain Unit**
- ***In Search of the Lord's Way*** local TV broadcast
- **Hattie Bucy** (Shelia Becker's mother)
- **Delores Hadley** (Jim Becker's mother)
- **Ryan Macomber** (recovering from foot surgery)
- **Luke Collinsworth** (recovering from knee surgery)