



North Garland

CHURCH OF CHRIST

We Strive to Be: A church devoted to making disciples of Jesus Christ, growing together in knowledge and relationship with God and each other.

Today's Events:

H.O.P.E. Group:
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Roger & Charlotte Owen's House:
6726 N. Imo Road

Upcoming Events:

May 4 – Going Away Party for
Leonie Hel: 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. in the
Fellowship Building
May 6 – Men's/Women's Bible
Study: 10-11 a.m.
May 6 – Serve Lunch at the Alva
Bible Chair
May 11 – Elders/Deacons Meeting:
After Worship (Wayne Williams)
May 11 – H.O.P.E. Group
May 18 – Senior Sunday
May 20 - Men's/Women's Bible
Study: 10-11 a.m.
May 25 – Kaitlyn Wilson Baby (Boy)
Shower: 2:00 p.m.
May 25 – H.O.P.E. Group: 6:00 p.m.
- 7:30 p.m.

Order of Worship

Song Leader/Welcome..... Dee Plummer
Communion Talk..... Jim Coker
Servers..... Kaiser Webb, Cole Roberts, Gordon Jantz
..... Brandon Jones, Dudley Darrow, Michael Armour
Sermon: The "Authentic" Self Erik Granberg
Shepherd's Prayer Terry Sherrill

Nursery Kayla Thornton, Gina Thornton
Sound Booth/Slides Dudley Darrow
Children's Church Teacher/Helper Katana Jones, Meredith Plummer

Sermon Scripture:

Ephesians 4:17-22

Sermon Thought:

I once heard someone make the comment, "Just be the real you." Here is the problem, what if the real me isn't a nice person? Our current culture says it desires "authenticity." However, I believe we misunderstand what we really want. Scripture tells us to put off the old self and put on a new self.

Sermon Questions:

1. What does it mean to be "authentic" in today's culture, and how does that compare to the biblical call to "put off the old self"?
2. Have you ever struggled with the idea of being the "real you" while also trying to live out your identity in Christ? What did that tension look like?
3. According to Ephesians 4:17–22, what are some practical ways we can "put on the new self" in our daily lives?

This Week's Birthdays:

May:
1st..... Gerald Hurst
2nd..... Kassidy Roberts

Next Week's (5/4/25) Servants:

**Song Leader
/Welcome:**

**Communion
Talk:** Roger Unruh

Servers:

**Shepherd's
Prayer:** Roger Owen

**Sound Booth/
Slides:**

Nursery: Patrece Allen
Jacqueline
Anderson

**Children's
Church:** Kim Tinius
Audrey Darrow

**Wednesday
Toddler/
Preschool
Teacher:** N/A
5th Wed.
Outreach

**Greeters
For May:**

**Communion
Prep for May:** Gina Thornton

**Wash
Baptismal
Garments
In May:** Kelli Moore

Not Baptized? Then Why Wait?

(Acts 22:16)

It may be that some who are reading this article have never been baptized, even though they believe with all their heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (Romans 10:9; Acts 8:37) Some may argue that baptism isn't necessary or required by God for salvation. There are other misconceptions about this act of obedience, for instance, that one must be baptized in front of the audience of the church or that it can only be done after the invitation song. Others may realize that it must be done, but procrastinate, and much like an undone household chore, they just haven't gotten around to it.

The truth is, that God requires us to step out in an act of faith and be baptized. Jesus gave the instruction to teach the world the Good News, make disciples, and baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15) The man who would eventually write most of the New Testament was required to be baptized. Ananias said to Saul, "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16) Also, the book of Acts records literally thousands of baptisms. (Acts 2:41; 8:12,13,16,38; 10:48; 16:15,33) If one reads on through the New Testament, they will see that all spiritual blessings are found in Christ and that one must be baptized into Christ. (Ephesians 1:3; Galatians 3:27) Baptism (immersion) is a simple and straight forward act that washes away one's sin, making them a new spiritual creation. (2 Corinthians 5:17) The biblical evidence is clear; God wants us to be baptized.

So, what are you waiting for?

Article written by: Jay Launius – 2024, Maud Church of Christ, Maud, Texas

Dan Kent

