

Good News From Chardon

Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave.
Chardon, OH 44024
440-286-5505
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Issue 2

Singing Is God's Idea

I love to worship in song. I always have. My mother instilled this in me at an early age. We of course sang during our worship at church assemblies. But there were many other times when we sang "church" songs together at family gatherings, or with friends, or at area-wide singings, or at Bible camps and VBS. I was privileged to sing with Christian choirs in high school and college, and on several other occasions. Sometimes my wife and I would just open up a song book and sing together. I just love to sing. Singing moves my heart closer to God.

However, not everyone was raised to love singing like I was. Not everyone enjoys singing like I do. And that's ok. But what's not ok is to have a negative attitude about singing. Why? Because singing is God's idea.

It seems that in lots of churches singing is becoming an afterthought, even a drudgery. It seems that some are only doing it because that's what they've always done or because it is an "item of worship." It seems that many song leaders just select their songs without much forethought or planning, and that church leaders and church members fail to attach much importance or value to singing. This may be an exaggeration, but my point is to encourage us all to refocus our attention on the fact that singing is God's idea. And because it is His idea, perhaps we need to reevaluate why He wants us to sing, and even more so, why He wants me to sing.

Singing is not just for those who can sing well. It is awesome and inspiring when singing is beautiful, and we should work at singing the best we can. But a beautiful sound is not the main point. According to Colossians 3.16 the reason for singing is for teaching and admonishing one another with the word of Christ that dwells richly in our hearts. Certainly we can teach and admonish each other without music. That what preachers and teachers and parents do. But it's God's idea to also do it with singing. God knows music has a way of moving and influencing us in ways that nothing else can. Different kinds of songs (psalms, hymns, spiritual songs) teach and admonish us in different ways than merely speaking the words can do. When music is combined with spiritual lyrics, we can be affected deeply as we make melody in our hearts (Ephesians 5.19). PLUS, we can impact others, and that is one thing God wants us to do in worship, according to the above Scriptures.

So, let's be encouraged to give God our best in worship by singing to each other as we allow our own hearts to make melody to God. Let's be encouraged to pay more attention to the lyrics of the songs so we can all be moved closer to God.

Joe Chesser preaches for the Fruitland Church of Christ,
Fruitland, MO.

Schedule of Services

Greeting: Tom
Song Leader: Doug
Opening Hymn:
545—O Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Opening Prayer: Robert
Hymn:
256—God Is Love
Scripture Reading: Ray
Colossians 3:5-17
Hymn:
22—I Will Sing The Wonderous Story
Lord's Supper: Dale
Hymn:
348—Hilltops of Glory
Sermon: Tom
Invitation Hymn:
245—Only In Thee
Closing Hymn:
656—Blest Be The Tie
Closing Prayer: Ryan

**Minds are like
parachutes, they
function only when open.**

CALENDAR

Jan. 8— Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Tom
Jan. 13—(b) Cindy
Jan. 15—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Mark—Business meeting
Jan. 15—(a) Tom & Nina
Jan. 21—(b) Madelyn
Jan. 21—(b) Robert
Jan. 22—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Tom
Jan. 24—Ladies Class at Nina's
Jan. 26—(b) Amy
Jan. 29—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Mark

SUNDAY: Bible Study—10:00 am, Worship—11:00 am

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Audio Service: 312-626-6799 Zoom I.D.: 81430241090 Password: 444015

Living as Those Made Alive in Christ

Colossians 3:5-17

WORD LIST

Because	belongs	coming
Death	desires	earthly
Evil	greed	idolatry
Immorality	impurity	life
Lust	nature	once
Sexual	therefore	these
These	used	walk
Ways	whatever	which
Wrath	your	

B T H K R O E I Y D U G H T S
P E L I F E R D T E S A S Y W
L A L M S H U O I S Y U A W H
W M N O S A T L R I L W N H A
D S O N N G A A U R S R F I T
R O E M T G N T P E H A E C E
E S D C P I S R M S R T I H V
R T E D N E F Y I L H H M J E
O T A E W O S E V V T Y O U R
F E T S M I A U C O M I N G S
E S H U Q R G B A C C L I V E
R E S Q T Y N D H C C A D Z S
E H W H P Y I T D E E R G G E
H T L L A U X E S A W B I I H
T Y I M M O R A L I T Y U K T

PRAYER LIST

- Mynda and all her family, as she travels.
- Debbie's surgery recovery; as her and Mark travel
- Ackerman family, Debra's health
- Betty and Randy have Type A Flu.
- Ruth is home now & attending services
- Roberta, doing Bible study with Tom, stroke recovery and Bible study with Kris
- Bonnie's grandson Devin as he reads and opens his heart to Christ.
- Wanda's migraines; son Allen, sisters Lorraine & Joyce
- Mary and her family. Carl's gout and hip surgery recovery, Mary's leg injury
- Kathy, severe feet issues, surgery recovery and pain, her sister and friends. She is at Brier Hill.
- Linda's health and procedures. Her friend Mark
- Zarna and her family
- Juanita, her sister Betty and the rest of her family.
- Ray and Barbara and their family.
- Dale's health issues and his family. His Mother's medical tests. His friend Riley (age 6) who has stage 4 cancer. Brother in Christ Darrell's surgery. His Aunt Rosie's heart and lungs. Cousin with heart issues
- Ray and his family. Rebecca's knee pain
- Pat and her family
- Jessie, Doug's friend, health

Colossians 3:5-17

- 5 Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. 6 Because of these, the wrath of God is coming.[b] 7 You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. 8 But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. 11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.
- 12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
- 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

If the church wants a better preacher, it only needs to pray for the one it has.