

Unity, togetherness, and harmony are essential for the church, our church, to be and act like the body of Christ, to be salt and light to our community and world, and bear credible testimony of Christ and the Gospel. These three need constant attention.

Satan tirelessly tries to undermine and attack the unity, togetherness, and harmony of the church, hoping to render it ineffective, hypocritical, laughable, carnal, and having form without substance. Of course, and sadly, too often the devil doesn't have to do anything because we are more than capable of making messes and church messes all on our own. The first assaults on the church were those jockeying for position and pettiness among the disciples. Prejudice is the first shot fired on church unity recorded in Acts, immediately followed by lying and hypocrisy. Power struggles, selfish ambitions, heresies and isms (legalism, antinomianism, Gnosticism, Arianism, Modalism, authoritarianism, ...), church celebrity culture, greed and materialism, sexual misconduct, unforgiveness, unholiness, pretense, spiritual snobbishness, loose lips, absence of humility, and lack of submission to the Spirit of God, the word of God, and to one another have threatened and divided the church in the past and present.

One of the more subtle but prevalent dividers of the church today is a disregard for the church, an "I don't need church to be a Christian" attitude, the "I like church but don't like organized religion" mantra. Besides being completely unbiblical (it is impossible to recognize the Bible as God's written word and dismiss the church), this is spiritual anarchy, everybody doing their own thing, and it is outright disobedience and actively working against the Holy Spirit, who from the moment of salvation places every believer in the body of Christ, **"For as the body is one and has many parts, and all the parts of that body, though many, are one body—so also is Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit"** 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (HCSB).

The believers in Corinth to whom the above reminder was first addressed were struck with unusually harsh judgment because of their abuse of the Lord's Supper, **"That is why many of you are weak and**

sick and some have even died" 1 Corinthians 11:30 (NLT2). Why? Because they were divided, **"I hear that there are divisions among you when you meet as a church, and to some extent I believe it"** 1 Corinthians 11:18 (NLT2). They had forgotten or were ignoring that the Lord's Supper is not only about remembering the sacrifice of Jesus' body on the cross but also about the body of his church. Partaking of Communion calls us to honor Christ with a commitment to personal holiness, and it also requires us to pay attention to collective unity that honors and represents Christ. True communion has no room for division, lack of togetherness, and absence of harmony in the body of Christ.

Throughout my Christian life, I have asked myself, "Would there be a church in my community if everyone would imitate my commitment, my showing up, my giving, my involvement, my willingness to serve, my love and care for my brothers and sisters in Christ?"

Can your Christian brothers and sisters count on you to form and be a church in your community? Following their conversion the believers in the early church at Jerusalem made serious life changes. They built their lives around the "fellowship" (Koinonia, a commitment to one another), being an active member of the church throughout and every week. Besides being committed to showing up they committed themselves to core unity, togetherness, and harmony habits of the church (Acts 2:41-47):

- Learning to know and live the word of God ("The Apostles' teaching") - together.
- Worshipping, observing the Lord's Supper, and praising God - together.
- Praying - together.
- Sharing life and helping each other - together.
- Continually telling others about Jesus- together.

The result was beautiful unity, togetherness, and harmony, that exalted Christ, brought glory to God, blessed them with a deep sense of God's presence, gave them a good reputation among the unbelievers in their community, and led many to faith in Christ. Let's be committed to being that kind of Church.

To God be all glory. Love you, Pastor Hans



Lord Hear Our Prayers

PRAYER REQUEST

Bob Sykes, Antonio (surgery), Derrill Coffman
Bob Clayton, Philip Law, Paula, John (Jerry Criswell's son),
Daniel & his family as well as all our military people who suffer
with PTSD, and those dealing with addiction.

SALVATION

Nick, Greg, David, Luke, Skip, Demetrius McCray,
Farney, Peter, Jimmy, Dan, Josiah, Amanda, Jim

Military And Those Serving

Michael Berger, Austin Downing, Noah Martin,
John Michael Chavez, Chris Kelly, Austin Kroeker,
Brian Sula, Thomas Hoffman, Joel Thelen,
Clayton Brown, Jonathan Grinols, Joshua Grabowski,
Christopher Sula, Dylan Briggs

CARD & FLOWER MINISTRY

If you know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized, please let us
know by calling: **Lynnette Barrera** – (559)400-1862 and/or
e-mail **Judy Mahar** at ldpbcprayer@gmail.com with your
prayer requests.

Church Board Members:

Hans Frei - Pastor , Richard Mayes - Head Deacon ,
Sue Kluding, Gabi Cox, Chuck Arndt, Barb Deibler

Welcome

Sarah Storey

as our most recent volunteer

Children's Ministry Leader!



If you are interested in helping in children's
ministry, please contact her for more information
(209)352-4719

October Announcements

Upcoming Events

- Men's Gathering - Tuesday @ 6:00 P.M.
- Wednesday Night Bible Study for all ages @ 7:00 P.M.
- Food Ministry - 1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday 9-11 AM
- Women's Ministry - Wednesday @ 10:00AM
- GriefShare - Wednesday @ 6:30 PM

Fellowship Refreshments were provided by:

"Hans' Class"

Thank you

Next week "Dennis' Class" is up!!

TODAY

Is

Pastor Appreciation Day

and

"WE APPRECIATE"

You

Pastor Hans



Giving

October 6, 2024

Offering:
\$1,456.00

Facilities:
\$55.00

Food:
\$25.00

Attendance:
68

Weekly Events

Sunday School/Small Groups:

9:00 AM

Sunday Morning Worship Service:

10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship Service:

6:00 PM

Tuesday: Men's Gathering: 6:00 PM

1st Wednesday & 3rd Tuesday

Food Ministry:

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Wednesday:

Women's Bible Study - 10:00 AM

GriefShare - 6:30 PM

Bible Study/Small Group - 7:00 PM

Thursday: Chicken Foot - 1:00 PM

Saturday: Youth Hang-Out 6-9 PM

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LAKE DON PEDRO
BAPTIST CHURCH

Be Saved

Acts 4:12

Sunday Services 10:30am & 6:00pm
LDPbaptistchurch.com

Yearly Bible Reading Plan - 2024 October 14th - October 20th



DAY 1 - Isa. 21-22
(Proverbs 14)

DAY 2 - Isa. 23-24
(Proverbs 15)

DAY 3 - Isa. 25-26
(Proverbs 16)

DAY 4 - Isa. 27-28
(Proverbs 17)

DAY 5 - Isa. 29-30
(Proverbs 18)

DAY 6 - (Proverbs 19)
DAY 7 - (Proverbs 20)

Welcome all of you who are guests with us today. Our desire is for you to relax and be blessed by worship, God's Word, and fellowship. We, the members, have committed ourselves to underwrite the church financially. We do not expect you to contribute to the offering, but you are free to participate. We would like to get to know you and for you to know us better.