

Welcome

Laings, Ohio Church of Christ, November 18th, 2018



Those who will be serving in our worship today:

Announcements	Don Bayes
Song Leader	Dwayne Thompson
Scripture Reader	Cooper Thompson
Opening Prayer	Don Thompson
Sermon	Andrew Beasley
Lord's Table Leader	Tim Frye
Server	Jason Workman
Server	Tom Frye
Server	Cooper Thompson
Closing Prayer	Paul Turner

**Laings
Church of Christ**
P.O. Box 24
State Route 255
Laings, Ohio 43752
Times of Meeting:

Sunday
Bible Classes 9:45 AM
Worship Services
10:30 AM & 6:00 PM
Wednesday
Bible Classes 7:00 PM

For more information:
Phone: 740-213-9633

THOSE TO CONTACT:

Elder:	
Elder:	
Deacon: Don Bayes	Ph. 740-472-5592
Deacon/Treasurer: Tim Frye	Ph. 740-213-0945
Deacon: Jim McGuire	Ph. 740-827-4092
Deacon: Don Thompson	Ph. 740-472-5269
Evangelist: Andrew Beasley	
Cell:	Ph: 740-213-2701
Church office hours:	Monday-Thursday 8:30AM to Noon
E-mail:	andrew.beasley@laingschurchofchrist.org
Web page:	http://laingschurchofchrist.org/home

Today's Sermons

A.M.

"Cultivating Thankfulness"

Scripture Reading AM

Psalms 118:28-29

P.M.

"Render, Therefore, To Caesar"

Scripture Reading PM

Matthew 22:15-22

You are invited back to all our services!!

Women In The Early Church (II) [by W. Terry Varner]

In our first essay, we suggested (1) that the church in Circa, North Africa suggests that women outnumbered men in the church and (2) that historians of early Roman culture contend that men outnumber women in society. Consider the following information:

Gender By Conversion. With women in short supply because of female infanticide and abortion, which most often killed the women along with the baby, the general status of women was very low. Girls were uneducated. Roman law made 12 years as the minimum age of girls to marry; however, at times they married earlier without penalty. Women were considered the legal property of a man in **all** stages of her life. A man could divorce his wife by ordering her from the household. If a woman owned property it was under the control of another male to whom she “belonged.” Historians contend, that while more males existed in society, “Christianity seems to have been especially successful among women. It was often through the wives that it [Christianity] penetrated the upper classes of society” (Chadwick 56). It is a fact that Marica, wife of emperor Commodus, convinced him to free Callistus, who later became a Christian, from serving hard labor in the mines. Though she never converted her husband often women brought their husbands to Christ (cf. 1 Peter 3:1-7). Apparently, many early Christian women took an active role in fulfilling the Great Commission (cf. Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:44). It is an interesting point being made by the historians that men outnumbered women in society, but that women outnumbered men in the church.

General Status of Christian Women. It has often been stated, and rightly so, that Christianity elevated the status of women. That is, Christian women enjoyed a greater status than pagan women. The question is: “**WHY?**” The answer, in part, is that Christianity did not condone female infanticide, abortion, divorce, incest, marital infidelity, polygamy, etc. From the beginning, Christianity prized both male and female chastity. Christianity regarded sexual impurity in marriage as a breach of loyalty, trust, and faithfulness by both males and females. Non-Christian widows lost all of their inheritance to the new pagan husband; whereas, the Christian widows kept their inheritance and, if need be, were supported by the church and family members (cf. 1 Timothy 5:3-16). Eusebius, the first church historian, records that the church in Antioch cared for “more than 1,500 widows and distressed persons” (282).

Conversion and Marriage. It is wrong to perceive Christianity as being a closed community; i.e. both were Christians when it came to marriage. Not all husbands were converted with their wives. Not all wives were converted with their husbands. The writings of Peter and Paul sanctioned, not condemned, marriage between Christians and non-Christians. Peter cautioned the Christian woman married to a non-Christian to be submissive to her non-Christian husband so that “*without the word [they] be won by the conduct of their wives*” (1 Peter 3:1-2, NKJV). Likewise, Paul writes that “*the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband*” (1 Corinthians 7:14). Harnack contends that most mixed marriages were the result of the wife being the Christian (2:29).

If this is true, then Christian women could be considered as “a ‘gateway’ into pagan families where ‘they were the wives, servants, and nurses of unbelievers’” (Brown 154). With Christian women marrying non-believers, it prevented Christianity from becoming filled with childless, single women, as well as, helping Christianity to spread throughout the Greco-Roman world and thereby helping fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 15-16).

Birthdays This Week

November 18th

Traci Wilson

November 22nd

Dane Landefeld

November 24th

Misty Landefeld

Anniversaries This Week

November 23rd

Alvin & Connie Thompson

Happy Thanksgiving

Please remember to pray for all those who are travelling this week.

After Morning Worship

Following the dismissal prayer this morning please remain seated as there are some additional announcements that will be made at that point.

For the Record:

A.M. Sun. 11/11	59
P.M. Sun. 11/11	31
Wed. 11/14	17
Offering: \$1186.00	

In Need of Prayer

Millie Haney- cancer, daughter of Lloyd Henthorn
Pat McGuire - US Navy.
Charlie Tomlin - home, doctors appointment in Cleveland on the 28th.
Larry Eikleberry - home, undergoing chemo treatment weekly.
Marsha Keevert - home, recovering from bone fusion surgery
Bill Thomas - hip surgery and elevated heart rate.
Lindsay Stalder & Baby Liam - Lindsay is staying at the Ronald McDonald house in Columbus while Liam remains in the NICU at Childrens Hospital. Prayers for this family are greatly appreciated.
Roger Starr - recovering from successful back surgery

F.Y.I.

Please update Andrew about those on the prayer list. They will be deleted after 4 weeks if there are no updates.

- We are still collecting cancelled stamps. Please see Jean Coplan or place them in the container in the library.
- Starting the first Sunday of the month in December (12/2/2018) we will be having a potluck meal at the Laings Community Center immediately following morning worship on the first Sunday of every month. Evening worship will then take place immediately following the potluck back at the church building.

Please note the last person out of the church building please turn off all the lights. Thank you!