

to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as also ye were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all.

**An Admonition for Unity**

Paul begins his petition for “oneness” by appealing to the highest motives of Christian service. First, he underscores his credibility as one who is the Lord’s “prisoner” (cf. 3:1; 6:20). The apostle begs these kinsmen in Christ to “walk worthily” of their “calling.” “Worthily” is an adverb, expressing manner (cf. 1 Thessalonians 2:12; Colossians 1:10; Philippians 1:27; Romans 16:2). The “calling” has to do with their response to God’s plan of redemption, as revealed in the gospel (cf. Acts 2:38-39; 2 Thessalonians 2:14; 2 Peter 1:10).

**One Faith, One Hope**

First, there is the expression “one faith.” “Faith” is used in two prominent senses in the New Testament. Sometimes the noun refers to that personal conviction (or trust) that one entertains with reference to God. For example, Paul told the Roman saints that their “faith” was widely acclaimed throughout the empire (Romans 1:8). Some see a subjective “faith” as the usage in this Ephesian passage, the sense being that children of God are bound together by their “personal commitment” to the Lord (Wood 1994, 767). “Faith” is not independent of obedience (see Jackson 2005, 415ff).

On the other hand, “faith” can be employed of the objective body of truth that undergirds the Christian system. Frequently such usage is qualified by the Greek article, i.e., “the faith.” Paul preached “the faith” of which he once made havoc (Galatians 1:23). The man who neglects his family duties has denied “the faith” (1 Timothy 5:8). Each child of God is to contend for “the faith” (Jude 3).

It may be that “faith” in this passage embraces both ideas (Lenski 1961, 512). Hendricksen, who inclines toward subjective faith, nonetheless says that the subjective and the objective cannot be separated: when a person surrenders himself to Christ as his Lord he at the same time also accepts the body of truth with reference to him (1979, 187).

**One Body**

It is hardly a point of controversy that the “one body” of this text represents the church of Jesus Christ. The church and body are seen as equivalents elsewhere in this very book (1:22-23; cf. Colossians 1:18,24), and the apostle makes a similar point in a letter to the church in Corinth. “You are the body of Christ,” he says, “and severally [individually] members thereof” (1 Corinthians 12:27).

The church (the “called out” of God) is viewed under the figure of a “body” for at least two reasons. First, the body is under the control of the “head.” Even so, Christ is the head of his spiritual body, and the members are subject to his sovereignty (Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:22ff; Colossians 1:18). Second, as a body cannot function with precision unless there is unity of operation among its members (1 Corinthians 12:12ff; Romans 12:4-8), even so the kingdom of Christ cannot be effective where there is an absence of cooperation among its fellow-citizens (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:10ff).

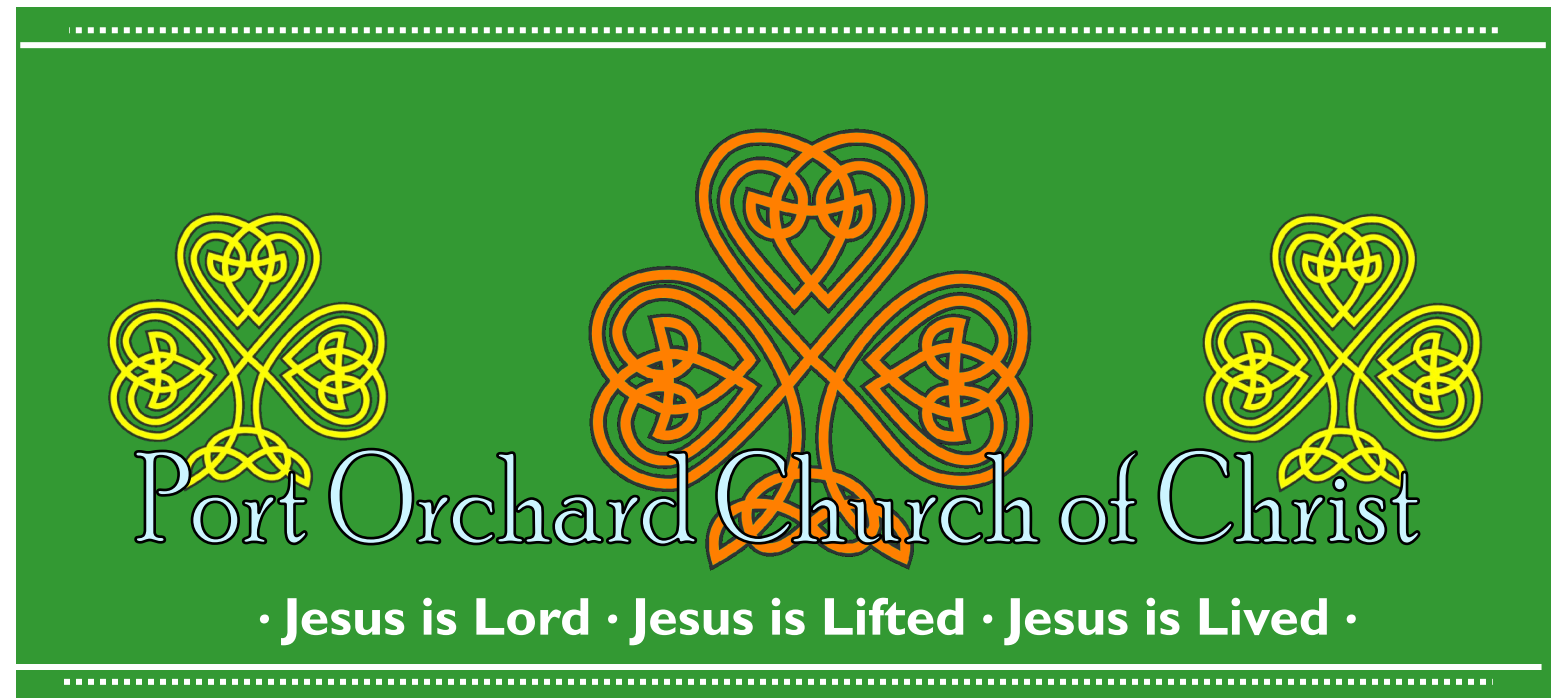
Simple logic reveals that if the body is the church (Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18,24), and there is but one body (Ephesians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 12:20), then there is but one church (in its universal aspect).

**Conclusion**

What a grand scope of sacred information is packed into Ephesians 4:1-6. There is the affirmation of a heavenly orchestration of the purpose of God. Likewise there is the suggestion of a unified plan of obedience to which the saints must yield. And there is the glorious common hope that awaits the faithful. What an admonition this is for all who profess to honor Jesus Christ. What a warning it suggests for those who glory in factionism!

**Works Cited**

- Hendricksen, William. 1979. Ephesians. New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker.
- Lenski. R.C.H. 1961. The Interpretation of St. Paul’s Epistles to the Galatians, Ephesians and Philippians. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg.



**A Divine Platform for Christian Unity** by Wayne Jackson

The following is condensed from an article found in the Christian Courier, a on-line and print newsletter, one of the most visited teaching websites among the churches of Christ, reaching nearly a half-million readers a month. The full article, including a lengthy study of baptism, can be found at: <https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/546-divine-platform-for-christian-unity-a>

The church of Jesus Christ in the city of Ephesus is first mentioned in the latter portion of Acts 18, when certain “brethren” wrote a letter commending the eloquent Apollos (v. 27). Paul visited that great metropolis during his third missionary campaign, probably in the spring of A.D. 54/55, and built upon that foundation (Acts 19:1-7). In this community, he labored for some three years (Acts 20:31).

Probably eight years or so later, he wrote a letter to this congregation, the design of which was to focus upon the realization of God’s eternal plan, as brought to fruition by the work of Jesus Christ. The phrase “in Christ” (or its equivalent) is found some thirty-five times in the epistle. The letter also has a practical thrust, beginning in 4:1ff. One element of

*It's Daylight Savings time...  
Spring forward!*



*Set your clocks ahead one hour  
this Saturday night, March 9.*

the practical segment is a solicitation for unity (4:1-6).

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence

*(Continued on page 4)*

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# Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first cen-

tury church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs,

we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for names of the ministry staff and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

## Kids Memory Verses

Recite to Ms. Bonnie on Sunday, March 10th: Mark 1:17

Practice this week for Sunday, March 17th: 1 John 1:9

## Save the Dates!

**Saturday 3/9** Deacon's Meeting  
8:00 am at Building

**Sunday 3/10** Potluck &  
After Worship Congregational  
Meeting

**Tuesday 3/12** Ladies Prayer  
10:00am Meeting: LaDonna  
Latham's House

**Wednes 3/13** Prayer  
6:00pm

**Thursday 3/14** Men's Meeting  
6:30pm

**Serving March 10, 2019:**

## Port Orchard News and Events

### Sunday Preview

Thomas Morse will be giving the sermon this Sunday. Service begins at 10:45. We hope to see you here!

### Happy Birthday!

March--Ariana Avery-04, Charlotte Hahn-04, Lynn Chapman-05, Brad Orser-12, Garrett Cates-15, Troy Hill-15, Darrell Fry-25, Faith Wichman-28, JT Keagle-29, Mallory Hall-30, Lilly Harris-30, Roger Taylor-31.

### Last Sunday

Dale Sanders gave the sermon last Sunday. To listen, go to [pococ.weebly.com/teachings.html](http://pococ.weebly.com/teachings.html)

### Potluck

**When:** Sunday, March 10th, After Services

**Where:** POCOC Fellowship Hall

**Congregational Meeting** will follow Potluck, at about 1:30pm. It will include normal business, followed by continuing conversation about the role of women in the church.

### Memorial Service for David Latham

**When:** Saturday, March 23, 2019 at 11:00am

Reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. Contact Bonnie Mitchell for information.

### IJM Fundraiser

There are earrings, eye magnets, and wire flowers in the foyer. Please leave a donation for IJM in the piggy bank and take home a gift. Suggested donation is \$1.

**Jean Knox** passed away this last week from cancer, When in Port Orchard, Randy served this congregation as a deacon (twice), and as an elder for a brief time. Please keep Randy, their daughter Mona, and son in your prayers. A memorial is being planned for March 30th in Wenatchee, but details are not final yet. Cards can be send to:

Randy Knox  
1516 Rex Road  
Wenatchee, WA 98801

### Bunco Party

Mark your calendar.....Bunco party for all:

**When:** Friday, March 22

**Time:** 6 pm to ?

Bring a dish to share and be prepared to have fun!

### Garage Sale

To have a successful garage sale, donated stuff is needed. Please donate usable stuff.

- No big exercise equipment
- No old TVs or stereo equipment
- No badly stained, excessively used, excessively dirty, badly damaged, unworkable or broken, has an odor or appears to be unsafe

## Our Prayer List

### Healing:

Hannah (friend of Laura Fry), Wayne Hammock, Clyde Griffin, Dave Daniello (hockey team), Rachel Karn

### Encouragement:

Randy Knox and Family, LaDonna Latham & Family, All Children in the Memory Verse/Bible Reading Program, Tiny Village Team, Our Congregation

### Traveling:

Greers

### Other:

Northwest Mission, For those who fear the possible Tiny Cabin Village, Our families, nation, President Trump and leaders. Our ministries, Deacons & Congregation.

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Prayer Leader: Wayne Hammock           | Communion Prep&CleanUp: Rick Velasco |
| Scripture Reader: Thomas Morse         |                                      |
| Offering Thoughts: Dale Sanders        | Song Leader: Jamin Mason             |
| Communion Meditation: Bob McDaniel     |                                      |
| Servers: Brandon Karn/Terry Bratcher   |                                      |
| Ushers: Roger Taylor/Tim Duffy         | Children's 9:30 Teacher: Rachel Karn |
| Greeters: Barb Chasteen/Lori Sanders   | Youth Worship: Kelli Keagle          |
| Prayer Partners: Terry & Lisa Bratcher | Preaching: Thomas Morse              |
| Sound: Dale Sanders                    |                                      |
| Slides/Lighting: Isaac Benjamin        |                                      |

**March 3, 2019**

Worship: 69

Class: 46

Offering: \$2,982.00