

The Main Thing: The Love of Christ (written by Tiffany Rousseau)

Something Cody preached Sunday has really blessed me this week. Paul's eighth chapter of Romans being all about keeping the main thing (the love of Christ) the main thing, really resonates with my spirit.

How often do we let petty disputes over things we FEEL are the main thing get in the way of our relationship with others? If someone wears a dress that's a little too short than what another is comfortable seeing at church or another one wears flip flops instead of dress shoes, *why does this become more important than the love of Christ?*

What you wear to church Is not the main thing.

If someone believes that the bible clearly tells us to worship without instruments because there are none recorded as being used in the early church and another believes that Revelation and the Old Testament show the use of instruments, therefore instruments should be used to make praise, *why does this became more important than the love of Christ?*

Instrumental worship is not the main thing.

If you're like me, there are hot topics you often dwell on in order to better understand what living a righteous life means (i.e.

women's roles in the church, sexuality, method of baptism, frequency of communion, secret sin, etc). These are discussed, disputed, and derailed in churches, often handled without the grace of God, and cause dividing wedges between God's family. *Why does this become more important than the love of Christ?*

These things are not the main thing.

Christ's love is patient, kind, thankful, humble, calm, generous, forgiving, and everlasting (1 Cor. 13:4-8) It reached across sin and death and brought us to God so that we could live and live to the fullest. **As Christ-followers, we have that love inside of us: The Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5)** When we let these other things take place of the main thing (the love the Christ), we do not act with the love of Christ because in response to any of these things, all-too-often, we do not respond to each other with patience, kindness, thankfulness, humility, control, or overwhelming love. We respond with bitterness or stiffness.

In Romans 12:2, Paul says to "be transformed..." We all need to focus on this a lot more instead of being uniform. We are called to be transformed, not be uniform, to conform to Christ and lean not on our own understanding.

Think on this for the week and ponder what it means for you.

| Church Staff: | Deacons: | |
|----------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Cody Rousseau 360.801.8059 | Troy Hill | ³⁴ Gene Gerard |

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Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to try out Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since like to give you a warm welcome to our congregation. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, I pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek here to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a

Save the Dates!

Saturday 8/1, 8am Deacons Meeting

Saturday 8/1, 6pm Runell's 94 1/2 birthday party

Sunday 8/2, 12:15pm Congregational Meeting

Monday 8/17 Cody's Birthday!

Sunday 8/23, 2pm-5pm Family Water Park Trip!

Friday 9/4–9/7, Faithquest (@ Camp Yamhill in Oregon)



Serving August 2nd,

fear of the Lord. Some things we do might seem names and to point them out! old fashioned or traditional, but we want you to you took this step to join us for worship, I would 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 their

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.

Cody Rousseau

Port Orchard News and Events

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Pulpit Preview– Romans 9

This week we will be looking into the 9th chapter of the book of Romans. Now that we know what the Main Thing is, Paul is going to dive in deeper to understand the magnitude of this main thing, the love of Christ.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Nursery and Communion Sign-ups

Are you gifted with little kids? Would you like to serve somehow but don't know where to start? We have just the place for you! We need for more people to sign up for doing the nursery and communion prep/clean-up. Both of these jobs are very important for our Sunday services, so if you feel like you are willing and able, please sign up in the fover for the next opportunity. Don't know what these different serving opportunities look like/ require? Just see Cody Rousseau after church and he'll walk you through them.

Coin Drive!

There are still plenty of coin cans in the foyer! If you wanted a can please pick it on your way out this week! Remember that donations to Mountain States Children's Home directly benefit the children being ministered to there. Cans will be collected in August. Let's band together and contribute to their wellbeing!

ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

| Prayer Leader: | Darrel Fry | Communion Prep: | R.V. |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Scripture Reader: | Cody Rousseau | Communion Cleanup: | Wilsons |
| Offering Thoughts: | Troy Hill | Praise Team: | Lead: Gene Gerard |
| Communion Meditation: | Trent Herbert | | Laura Gerard |
| Servers: | Dave Snypp & Brad Orser | | Connie Greer |
| Ushers: | G. Chasteen & Kenny B. | | Kenny Benjamin |
| Greeters: | Karen Taylor & Deloris Lawler | Children's Church Helper: | Laura Fry |
| Nursery Attendants: | TBD | Fellowship Team: | Donuts— Jo Vaughn |
| Sound: | John Bickel | | Coffee— Rick Valesco |
| Slides/Lighting: | Dale Sanders | | Cleanup— Jo Vaughn |



Happy Birthdays!

August isn't just a month people get married, it's also a month full of birthdays! If you get the chance, try to catch these members this month to offer a happy birthday!

1—Tanya Howard; 3—Sha'lon Pyke; 6—Larry Trail; 6—Scott Hall; 17th— Cody Rousseau; 17—Terry Bratcher; 18—Rodney Cormier 20—Jeff Duffy; 20—Connie Greer; 25—Colleen Trail; 25—Dave Snypp; 28—David Latham

Runell's Birthday Party Shuttle Info

For those of you who are attending Runell's birthday celebration, here is the info about parking/the shuttle that will help transport you:

**Due to limited space we are requesting guests park at the Harper Church Park & Ride (10384 SE Sedgwick Rd, Port Orchard, WA 98366). The shuttle that will bring guests to the party will leave every 15 minutes. It will begin at 5pm and end at 6pm. Don't forget to bring a side dish to share! It's going to be a blast!

Children's Ministry—Family Water Park Trip!—Sunday, August 23rd Have your kids told you yet? Our theme in Sunday school and Children's church is WATER PARK! We are learning about the Exodus through the lens of a family vacation to the water park and at the end of our lessons, we are going to have a real-life application experience by going on a *field trip!* Immediately following the service on Sunday, August 23rd, we will caravan to water park in Tacoma (specific park TBD) to celebrate God's deliverance of Israel with games and picnicking! Tiffany is getting a head count to plan accordingly, so please let her know how many in your family will attend. The kids are very excited about this event, so please plan to join us if you are able. Contact Tiffany to get involved or if you have any questions at (360) 801-8060.

Faithquest

Faithquest is only 5 weeks away. **We need two chaperones at least (1 male, 1 female**). Both adults and teens, if you are planning on going to Faith Quest, you need to get your registration forms turned in either with the church office (Cody) or online. The cost is \$150 plus \$12 for the tee shirt. Registration cost, after August 10th (IN 8 DAYS), will be \$170 with no guarantee that you will be able to purchase a tee shirt. Don't wait, sign up today!

Ladies Bible Study

If you are a lady who is interested in a bible study and you haven't yet attended the bible study put on by LaDonna Latham Tuesday mornings at 9:00 yet, please consider adding this to your weekly schedule. This is a (Continued on page 4)

Our Prayer List

Pending Surgeries: Lucille Lowe's Son Byron Bungart Dan Gross' son

Healing:

Pam Woodrow after her accident to heal and be comforted.

DJ Magneson healing for her broken foot and to relieve her stress

Karen Taylor relief from her back pain and for continued success from the shots.

Ava 9 years old with cancer. Prayer for healing and courage.

Sciotti family for healing and relief in the midst of surgeries and illnesses *Marcy* Rick's ex-wife in Cottesmore *Yvonne Lawrence* healing and relief

from back pain, and stress. **Isaac Benjamin** for continued healing

and recovery.

Darlene Woodrow for her chemo treatments to be successful **James Greer** healing after his shoulder surgery and hospital stay.

Loss of Loved Ones: Warner Family Lawler Family Lowe Family Vonnie Miller Leon's family & Rick V.

All those traveling and camping

July 26, 2015

Worship: n/a Class: n/a Offering: n/a Goal: n/a wonderful morning event held at the church building, a good chance to build deeper relationships with some of the women at our congregation, to learn about the bible, to pray and share, and mostly to have community. If you need information about this please contact LaDonna or show up this Tuesday to dive into the word!

Port Orchard Church of Christ 2585 Carr Lane SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366 360.876.2604 churchpococ@gmail.com www.pococ.weebly.com