

MAKING A PLACE FOR YOU

MARCH, 2017



For This Cause

It was the last day in the life of Jesus, and He stood before Pontius Pilate. He was asked, “Art thou a king?” Jesus, knowing full well the brutal death that awaited Him, replied, “*For this cause* came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth” (John 18:37). A few hours later He was crucified, giving His life for the sins of the world. Years later, while imprisoned in Rome, the apostle Paul penned these words: “*For this cause* I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles” (Ephesians 3:1), and a few verses later he wrote, “*For this cause* I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,” (Ephesians 3:14).

Both Jesus and Paul gave everything, including their lives, for their cause. What was their cause? Paul declared it in Ephesians 6:19-20: “to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds.” Our world is full of causes today. Every day, people are demonstrating in the streets for their cause. They are passionate, they are bold, and they are committed. Should we be any less committed and passionate for our cause? For Jesus and Paul there was but one cause: “to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10). To them, all other causes pale in comparison. Should we not feel the same way?

The first century apostolics were swept away in the

cause of Christ. They were busy praying, fasting, studying, witnessing, and making disciples. It consumed them. They did not have time for other causes. Besides, they understood that the new birth (see John 3:5; Acts 2:38) was the solution for all the injustices of the world.

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One does not find the early church demonstrating against the injustices of Caesar and Rome. They were too busy praying and planting churches in Rome, including one in Caesar’s household. This is the apostolic way!

Many today are looking for purpose and meaning in life. They are looking for a cause for which to live and a solution for the social injustices of the world. We have the answer for both! Soon we will expand the ministries and building of Solid Rock Church. We are doing this for the cause of Christ. Why? Because we are caught up in the greatest cause and governmental movement this world has ever known: the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ!

“Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this” (Isaiah 9:7).

Give yourself to the cause!

Pastor Jones

Outreach

“Priority One, Everyone Reach One” – Pastor Gardner

The vision for Outreach this year is that everyone is reaching for that *one*. It could be a co-worker, a friend, family member, neighbor, or a stranger. The number one priority for any Christian is to be a witness: to testify and share the gospel. If you look at the conversion of Saul, he was given a new name and a new mission. It wasn't long after his conversion that he was preaching and teaching the gospel so much that he was brought before the religious leaders, scolded, and beaten because of his bold witness. There is a risk in being a witness. The reward far outweighs the risk. “For whoever is ashamed [here and now] of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when He comes in His glory and *the glory* of the [heavenly] Father and of the holy angels” (Luke 9:26 Amplified Bible). Here is what *by the Grace of God* we must do to be an effective witness:

- We must pray that God thrust us out as laborers into the harvest
- We must pray for boldness to be a witness
- We must pray against intimidation
- We must pray for protection
- We must pray for the miraculous
- We must pray for a demonstration of the Spirit
- We must pray for our college campuses
- We must pray to be directed towards the hungry and the thirsty
- We must pray to be directed towards the godly to let them know there is more for them

There is a special anointing on the church this year. We have our marching orders from the Lord of the harvest. Now we must enter into the harvest with the boldness that comes from the Lord. Step out in faith and you will see Him do the rest!

Children's Ministry

The *whole Gospel to the whole world by the whole Church*: This is the mission statement of the UPCI and also the vision for Solid Rock Kids Ministry. We are all about souls! There are three main ways in which our department fulfills this mission:

Solid Rock Kids instills the message of the Gospel and God's plan for salvation on a level children can understand. We have engaging classes for children ages four through sixth grade taking place every Sunday morning as well as monthly Kid's Church. Families have a place to bring their children that is fun while providing sound biblical education.

Solid Rock Kids ministry, along with the support of parents and the church body, is raising up a godly seed

by equipping our children to engage in the harvest through a firm foundation of sound biblical doctrine. We use curriculum produced by Pentecostal Publishing House that is filled with biblical principles as well as providing our children with broad biblical knowledge. We believe building biblical understanding will give them the confidence to be bold for Jesus when they have opportunities to witness to those around them.

Third, Solid Rock Kids is fulfilling this vision is by mentoring young people who have graduated from Sunday school to become active in our ministry. They are able to gain insight into what ministry is about as well as find a place and purpose in the body of Christ.

-Sis. Crista Turner



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Alter Campus Ministry

2016 was a year of great growth for our campus ministry at Solid Rock Church. God did many awesome and noteworthy things; however, I believe all this will pale in comparison to what He has in store for 2017! At the beginning of 2017, the Lord spoke a promise to me that this year will be a year of fulfillment for the campus ministry of Solid Rock. We have already seen this word being confirmed by record attendance at our Bible studies at Washtenaw Community College this Winter Semester as well as multiple students receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost! Many doors of utterance are being opened before us, and God is at work in it all! I truly believe 2017 will reveal the fulfillment of the promises of God for our college campuses in the greater

Ann Arbor area. We must reach these areas of our community with the Gospel and, with the empowerment of the Spirit of God, we will do just that!

In addition to our ministry at Washtenaw Community College, I am pleased to announce we have begun plans to launch a second campus ministry at the University of Michigan this fall: Alter UofM! This may seem like a daunting task, but as it is written in Luke, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God" (Luke 18:27). Our Pastor has proclaimed that 2017 will be a year of the miraculous, and we are expecting just that!

Pastor Nathaniel Burmeister



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Looking Forward

We are excited to announce the upcoming events at SRC! Remember to mark your calendars!

March 11th, Ladies' Fellowship

March 17th and 18th, Hyphen Impact Retreat

March 18th, Men's Fellowship

March 25th, Community Outreach

April 7th - 9th, Revival with Bro. & Sis. Mallory

Discovery Classes

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