

Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday March 5, 2017

Welcome & Announcements

Musical Praise & Worship

Family Prayer

Scripture 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

Message..... Pastor John Bellingham

MAINTAINING UNITY

Lord's Table

Final Song

Benediction

The Basis of Christian Unity

“Unity is not something which exists, or of which you can speak in and of itself. It is always the consequence of our belief and acceptance of this great and glorious doctrine of God who has provided in His Son the way of salvation, and who mediates it to us through the operation of the Holy Spirit. That is the basis and the nature of Christian unity. It must never be thought of except in terms of this great background, this essential doctrine.”

- Dr. Martin Lloyd-Jones

Missionary of the Week

FEB Church Planters – Graeme and Julie Melvin

“Over the last few Sundays we have added three new families into our Church membership. All three families started to attend The Meadows in 2016. It is always exciting to celebrate growth! 2017 is going to bring a lot more change to our Church than we expected but it is for the good. Many of you know that we have a part-time worship pastor (Stacy) on staff. He was the key person who help the previous Church together long enough to start The Meadows Church. Because of many difficult situations in their family this past year, Stacy has decided to pull away from the ministry as they have not been able to contribute at the same level and are losing much energy. We agree this is best for their family, however it leaves a large hole because we have worked so well together. The good news is that we’re bringing on a worship intern over the next month and are hopeful to bring a Church planting intern in May.

Families of the Week

Please remember to pray for and to encourage the following people this week

- Monday** Terreberry, Jerry
- Tuesday** Thomas, Brent & Heather
 Jessica, Sarah, Brenna, Lydia
- Wednesday** Turton, Gerry & Melanie
- Thursday** Turton, Geoff & Kim
- Friday** Turton, Geoff Jr. & Zoe
- Saturday** Walton, Joan

ROSEDALE BAPTIST CHURCH



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

11 Rosedale Place
Welland, ON L3B 1J2
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Pastor: John C. Bellingham

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This Week at Rosedale

Monday: Admin Board Meeting – 7pm

Tuesday: Men’s Bible Study – 9:30 am

Wednesday: Hopeful Hearts – 12:00 pm
Prayer Meeting – 7:00 pm

Friday: Youth Group – 7:00 pm

Saturday: Ladies’ Bible Study – 8:00 am

Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:30 am
Corporate Worship – 10:30 am

Welcome Visitors: If you are new to Rosedale or just stopping by for a visit, please take a moment to fill out the visitor card in the pew and place it in the offering plate. Pastor John would be happy to connect with you and answer any questions you may have about our Church.

FEB Central Conference: The FEB Central Regional Conference will be held on April 3 & 4 at City Centre Baptist Church in Mississauga. The theme for the conference is ‘Recharge’ and Dr. Scotty Smith will be the Keynote speaker. Cost for the Conference is \$35. If you would like to register please speak with Pastor John.

Garage Sale: Rosedale will be hosting a Garage Sale to benefit Open Arms Mission on Saturday April 29th. Please take note of this date as you do spring cleaning and plan to begin bringing your items during the month of April.

Open Arms Collection: For the month of March we will be collecting cans of salmon and tuna for the Open Arms food bank.

Maintaining Unity - 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

I. God’s Desire – v. 10

- 1) The Warmth of Paul’s Appeal
 - a. Christians are ‘brothers’ - part of same family
 - b. Christians belong to the same Lord
- 2) The Content of Paul’s Appeal
 - a. Stated Positively – “that all of you agree” (literally – ‘say the same thing’)
 - b. Stated Negatively – “that there be no divisions” (‘divisions’ = *schismata* = schism/ tear)
- 3) The Biblical Limits of Paul’s Appeal
 - a. Paul is NOT teaching that all Christians must share the same opinions about everything (cf. Romans 14; 1 Corinthians 8)
 - b. Paul is NOT teaching that Christians should set aside doctrinal truth for the sake of visible unity (cf. Romans 16:17; Titus 3:10)
 - c. Paul is NOT teaching that we should never confront or divide over a doctrinal issue (cf. Galatians 2:11-14)
 - d. Paul is NOT teaching that we should avoid subjects simply because they are difficult to understand or controversial (cf. Romans 9-11)
- 4) The Basis for Christian Unity
 - a. Unity is created by God and maintained by man (cf. 1 Cor 12:27; Ephesians 4:1-3)
 - b. Unity is governed by the Apostolic body of teaching contained in God’s Inspired Word (cf. Acts 2:42; Romans 16:17; Galatians 1:8-9)

Application:

- We must understand the difference between a primary issue, a secondary issue and a personal opinion.
- Paul expects all Christians to be completely unified on the primary doctrines of the Christian faith. There should be no disunity when it comes to matters of central importance such as the Deity of Jesus Christ, the Triune nature of God, the Authority of Scripture,

Salvation by Grace alone through Faith etc. On these issues we must take an uncompromising stand.
- There are some theological issues where genuine Christians will continue to disagree (ie. Age of the Earth, Infant vs. Believer’s Baptism, Church Governance, Timing of Christ’s Return, Role of Israel in God’s Plan, Divine Sovereignty and Human Freedom; Use of Tongues/ Prophecy, etc.) It is possible to disagree on these types of issues and still to maintain Christian Unity. Sometimes disagreements on these types of issues will mean that we seek fellowship in different Churches or Denominations for the sake of peace.
- It is a tragedy when Christians divide and quarrel over personal opinions and preferences (ie. Bible Versions, Clothing, Food and Drink, Music Styles etc.)

II. The Corinthian Dysfunction – vv. 11-17

- 1) Personality Cults and ‘Cliques’
 - a. Paul, Apollos and Peter were of one mind on matters of Christian doctrine/ theology
 - b. Unlike the personality ‘cliques’ in Corinth, some modern distinctions are rooted in legitimate, ongoing theological differences (ie. Calvinism, Arminianism, Lutheranism, Wesleyanism etc.)
- 2) Misuse of Baptism
 - a. In Corinth, Baptism had become a sign of party loyalty rather than a sign of union with Christ
 - b. Paul does not deprecate Baptism or suggest that it’s optional – he’s rebuking sinful pride
 - c. The Corinthians were wrongly elevating Baptism above the preaching of God’s Word

Application:

- Carefully evaluate your loyalty and your motives – are you more eager to be identified Jesus Christ or with your favorite Bible teacher or Denomination?
- Quarrelling/ Dividing over non-essential matters dishonours Christ, contradicts our profession of faith, and ruins our gospel witness to the unsaved world.