

DANVILLE ALLIANCE CHURCH

A Christ-Centered "Acts 1:8" Family

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Pastor: Rev. Ken Cameron
Assistant Pastor: Rev. Len Bauer

Our Vision...



...is to be an instrument used by God to reach every man, woman, and child in our community with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Our Mission...



We exist to glorify God by bringing people into a relationship with Jesus, teaching them to be fully devoted followers

of Jesus, and equipping them for their life mission through the church, across their community, and into the world.

If I exist to glorify God, am I living a lifestyle that speaks of Christ?

If I exist to bring people into a relationship with Jesus, am I encountering the grace of God and speaking about it to others?

If I exist to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus, am I experiencing intimacy with God?

If I exist to be equipped for my life mission through the church, across my community, and into the world, have I discovered my giftedness and my call?

Morning Worship April 6, 2025

*"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
(Jesus, Matthew 16:18)*

Preparing for Worship

Is the World Better Without Christianity?

Has Christianity become just another religion that manipulates our culture? Bryan Winchester distinguishes between being a Christian and being a Christ-follower.

- * Welcome One Another!
- * Songs of Praise to God
- * We Invite God's Presence
- * Reading of God's Word

Cultivating a Healthy Church

Sermon by Pastor Ken Cameron

What Does Jesus Want His Church to Be? "My Church"

Matthew 16:13-20
*Jesus wants His Church to be committed to Him as Master, and as we partner together in obedience to Him, we recognize that the Church is not **our** possession, but **His**.*

- * Response to God in Prayer
- * Response to God in Song
- * Prayer for the Coming Week
- * We Give with Thanks to God

An offering box is placed at the back of the sanctuary for those who wish to give today. Thank you for your generosity!

- * Music Postlude
- * Standing, Please (Optional)

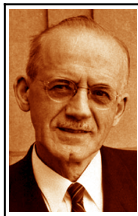
Nursery care is available during worship in our infant and toddler nurseries.

Thoughts on Today's Sermon Text



"On this rock I will build My church. The church will reign triumphant even at the gates of hell."

Jesus, Matthew 16:18



A Biblical Concept of the Church. It is time for us to reconsider this matter of the church. Most people think of the church as a familiar social fact. They favor the church much the same as they support motherhood, decency and sanitation.



But I wonder how many ever sit down and say, "What is this? Maybe the church is just something that is here; it doesn't have any value and doesn't have any reason for being here."

How many present-day Christians have ever searched the Scripture with a serious burden on their hearts to know what the church is? It seems that the average person spends more time filling out income tax forms than he or she spends in a lifetime trying to learn from the Scriptures and from the light of the Spirit what the church is and what he or she ought to do about it.

Why is it in the world? What did Jesus mean when He said, "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18)?

1 First, the church is the bride of Christ. A true local church is the bride of Christ in recapitulation, in miniature. Everything that is in the whole church of Christ should be recapitulated in the local church. The church, part of it in heaven and part of it on earth, is the bride of Christ. Our Lord Jesus washed His bride, regenerated her and prepared her. He is coming back to take her — the whole church — as His bride.

2 A second description of the church is the body of Christ. Jesus Christ is the head, and as the head of His church He directs it. My hands move because my head tells them to. My head directs my body. The head of a local church is not the pastor, but Jesus Christ the Lord. He is the head of the universal church of which the local church is a part. A local church is not all the body of Christ, but in miniature it is the body of Christ.

This brings to light a most wonderful truth. In the body of Christ there are no insignificant congregations. Each has His Name and each

is honored by His Presence. Large or small, the church must be an assembly of believers brought together through a Name to worship a Presence. The blessed thing is that God does not ask whether it is a big church or a little church.

But people do insist on asking questions about size and number of people because they are carnal. I know all about such human judgments. "This is a very little church," or, "That is a poor, unknown church." Meanwhile, God is saying, "It is My church — they are all My churches, and each has every right to all I bestow!"

A. W. Tozer, Rut, Rot, or Revival

Reading of God's Word ***Peter's Declaration*** ***about Jesus*** ***Matthew 16:13-20***



¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

¹⁴ **And they said, "Some say John the Baptist; others, Elijah; still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."**

¹⁵ "But you," He asked them, "who do you say that I am?"

¹⁶ **Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the**

Son of the living God!"

¹⁷ And Jesus responded, "Simon son of Jonah, you are blessed because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father in heaven.

¹⁸ **And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the forces of Hades will not overpower it.**

¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth is already bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth is already loosed in heaven."

²⁰ **And He gave the disciples orders to tell no one that He was the Messiah.**

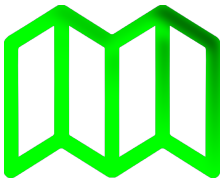
Peter's Confession **of the Messiah** Matthew 16:13-20



If you could ask any person any question, whom would you ask, and what would you want to know?

In what ways do you consider yourself blessed?

How would you describe an ideal church?



With Peter's confession that Jesus is the Anointed One, the foundation of the church is

laid. In the days ahead, the church will storm the gates of hell and nothing will be able to stop it. No darkness, no doubt, no deception — not even death will be able to stand against it.

The Voice™ translation
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In what region did the events of this passage take place? (16:13)

What broad, impersonal question did Jesus ask His disciples? (16:13)

What different answers did Christ get to His question? (16:14)

What are some common views of Jesus among our generation?

What pointed personal question did Christ ask His followers? (16:15)

Who do you say Jesus is?

Who spoke up in answer to Christ's question? (16:16)

What answer did Peter give? (16:16)

What happened the first time you spoke publicly about your faith in Christ?

Why was Peter blessed? (16:17)

In what way is coming to faith and understanding the gospel a supernatural event? (16:17)

What kind of leadership role did Jesus predict for Peter? (16:18)

What did Jesus promise about the Church? (16:18)

What forces try to hinder God's work today?

Why should churches not be discouraged in their efforts to carry out God's work?

What authority did Jesus promise to Peter? (16:19)

What difference does it make what we believe about Jesus?

Against what did Jesus warn His disciples at the conclusion of this discussion? (16:20)



What part in the building of Christ's Church do you have now?

What can you do or say to help a friend overcome an erroneous idea about Jesus?

What are three ways you could make a public statement of your faith in Christ?

LESSONmaker 8
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Ministry Finances *As of March 30, 2025*



Thank you for your faithful giving and support of the following ministries!

DAC General Fund

2025 Budget	94,063
2025 Budget-to-Date	23,516
2025 Giving-to-Date	21,875
(Giving is 93% of Year-to Date Budget)	

C&MA Great Commission Fund

2025 Giving Goal	15,600
2025 Goal-to-Date	3,900
2025 Giving-to-Date	4,190
(Giving is 107% of Year-to Date Giving Goal)	

Church of Christ's Birth (Sumy, Ukraine)

2025 Goal for Outreach	2,444
2025 Goal-to-Date	611
2025 Giving-to-Date	490
(Giving is 80% of Year-to-Date Giving Goal)	

Purok Malakas Alliance Church

2025 Giving Goal	2,288
2025 Goal-to-Date	572
2025 Giving-to-Date	992
(Giving is 173% of Year-to-Date Giving Goal)	

Hope Renewed (Formerly Love INC)

2025 Giving Goal	1,820
2025 Goal-to-Date	455
2025 Giving-to-Date	202
(Giving is 44% of Year-to-Date Giving Goal)	

Midwest District Church Planting

2025 Giving Goal	1,352
2025 Goal-to-Date	338
2025 Giving-to-Date	500
(Giving is 148% of Year-to-Date Giving Goal)	

Grace & Truth Press

2025 Giving Goal	780
2025 Goal-to-Date	195
2025 Giving-to-Date	150
(Giving is 77% of Year-to-Date Giving Goal)	

Jon & Stephanie Richason

(CRU Wisconsin-Steven's Point)

2025 Giving Goal	624
2025 Goal-to-Date	156
2025 Giving-to-Date	150
(Giving is 96% of Year-to-Date Giving Goal)	

Chad & Emily Simpson

(CRU Athletes in Action)

2025 Giving Goal	520
2025 Goal-to-Date	130
2025 Giving-to-Date	0
(Giving is 0% of Year-to-Date Giving Goal)	

Parsonage Fund

2024/2025 Giving	22,530
Expenditures through 3/24	10,727
Balance as of 3/24	9,303

Announcements



"Alive for Five"...

Many in our fellowship are praying for five others to receive Christ as their Savior. Their

names have been placed into the basket which is on the communion table. Be sure to include your own name on the back when you place your list into the basket. **"Alive for Five"** cards are on the resource table at the back of the sanctuary.



Communication

Cards are available in the

pew racks and on the resource table. Feel free to use these cards to...

...provide as much contact information as you would like

...share a prayer request with the church family

...send a word of thanks or encouragement to someone in the church family

Simply drop your completed card in the offering box, and we will take it from there!

Church Calendar

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays, 9:30 to 10:30 am...
Sunday School classes for all ages. Join us to learn from God's Word!



Sunday Sermon Preview meets in the fellowship room. Join us

as we prepare to engage the text of God's Word to be covered in the Sunday morning sermon.



Sundays at 9:30 am... A study on the **Book of Matthew** meets for High School

and College students. In Jesus, the Son of God brought the Kingdom of God through salvation of the people of God. This class meets in Room C.



Wednesdays at 7:00 pm...
Prayer Gathering in the fellowship room. Join us as we pray for our families, church, community, nation, and world.



A New Sermon Series Has Arrived... **Cultivating a Healthy Church** will provide us

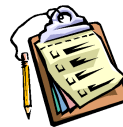
with a Biblical understanding of God's desires for the local assembly of the Body of Christ. Our focus will be on the spiritual health of the Body of Christ and its members, rather than on numerical growth. Some of the topics we will cover:

"What Is the Church?"

"How Do We Worship?"

"How Do I Grow Spiritually?"

"How Do We Fulfill Our Mission?"



Tuesday, April 22...

The **Church Administrative Board** meets.

Reports to the Board are due Wednesday, April 16.



Sunday, April 27, Morning Worship...

Communion will be observed.

