

United Parish
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Bottineau, ND 58318

Facebook
We are on the web
www.unitedparishbottineau.com

Newsletter News:
Send
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Deadline for February is January 24th

Church office - 228-2800
Secretary - 228-8123

Pastor's cell 605-870-1453
Please let the church know if you have
a e-mail address

Pastor Hours are
Monday-8:30-12, 1-4:30

Tuesday & Thursday 8:30-12,
Afternoon visitations

Wednesday-8:30 -12

Fridays off



CHILD'S SPEAK

A mother was teaching her three-year-old The Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime, the child repeated it after the mother. Then one night the child was ready to solo. The mother listened with pride to the carefully enunciated words, right up to the end. 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us some e-mail'.

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt.' His son asked, 'What happened to the flea?'

After the christening of his baby brother in church, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, 'That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I want to stay with you guys!'

Up Beat

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER |
UNITED PARISH
FEBRUARY 2022

On the third Sunday after Epiphany, I quoted Rev. Anthony Ross-Allan who asked, “What does it mean to say Jesus is Lord? I want to explore further what “Jesus is Lord” meant to Jesus’ early disciples in first century Christianity.

The Greek work for “Lord” is *kyrios* and it literally means “the one who owns you.” Every thing and everyone in the Roman Empire was owned by a different master. Kings were the ruler in their respective countries and his subjects referred to him as “Lord.” For example, in Jerusalem and throughout Israel it was declared, “Caesar is Lord.” The king was the one “who owns you” and so the citizenry referred to the King as “Lord.” For example, in Jerusalem and throughout Israel people proclaimed “Caesar is Lord.”

“Lord” referred to other positions as well. Slaves referred to their masters “lord”, workers called their employers “lord” and students might have called a respected teacher “lord.”

When Jesus was preaching and healing his followers began calling him ‘Lord’ declaring “Jesus is Lord.” This declaration became an early creed by which Christians identified one another. In her book, *Freeing Jesus*, Diana Butler Bass relates this incident: Around 112 CE Governor Phiny reported to the Roman Emperor Trajan about the activities of a new religious sect called Christians. He wanted to limit the influence of the new sect so Phiny sought more information by “torturing two female slaves who were called deaconesses. He told the Emperor that he did not learn anything significant—only about their “depraved, excessive superstition.” Torturing a few slaves was nothing for Phiny if he could remain powerful. We know nothing more about these deaconesses who most likely had been discovered through their customary Christian confession “Jesus is Lord.”

After relating this event Bass reflects, “In a world where millions were held in slavery and millions of others live in poverty and powerlessness at the bottom of a rigid social hierarchy, claiming Jesus as “Lord” announced one’s liberation from oppression. “Jesus is Lord” made sense in an empire of slaves, as submitting to his Lordship amounted to spiritual freedom, especially in the new community called the church where, apparently, female slaves held leadership position and Roman social status was upended.”

And so we see that in the first century “Lord” had many meanings that were personal, political and theological. In the Twenty-first century we continue to declare “Jesus is Lord”. It still can have many meanings. What does it mean to you when you say “Jesus is Lord.”

Author Unknown

Let's not allow the enemy to distract us...

Satan called a worldwide convention. In his opening address to his evil angels, he said, "We can't keep Christians from going to church. We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth. We can't even keep them from conservative values. But we can do something else. We can keep them from forming an intimate, abiding relationship experience in Christ. If they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken. So let them go to church, let them have their conservative lifestyles, but steal their time, so they can't gain that experience in Jesus Christ. This is what I want you to do, angels. Distract them from gaining hold of their Savior and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!"

"How shall we do this?" shouted his angels.

"Keep them busy in the nonessentials of life and invent unnumbered schemes to occupy their minds" he answered. "Tempt them to spend, spend, spend then borrow, borrow, borrow. Convince the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work six or seven days a week, ten to twelve hours a day so they can afford their lifestyles. Keep them from spending time with their children. As their family fragments, soon their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of work."

"Overstimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still small voice. Entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive, to keep the TV, VCR, CD's and their PC's going constantly in their homes. And see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays non-biblical music constantly. This will jam their minds and break that union with Christ."

Fill their coffee tables with magazines and newspapers. Pound their minds with news 24 hours a day. Invade their driving moments

with billboards. Flood their mailboxes with junk mail, sweepstakes, mail order catalogues, and every kind of newsletter and promotional offering, free products, services and false hopes."

"Even in their recreation, let them be excessive. Have them return from their recreation exhausted, disquieted, and unprepared for the coming week. Don't let them go out in nature to reflect on God's wonders. Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, concerts and movies instead. And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences and unsettled emotion."

"Let them be involved in soul-winning. But crowd their lives with so many good causes they have no time to seek power from Christ. Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family unity for the good of the cause."

It was quite a convention in the end. And the evil angels went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get busy, busy, busy and rush here and there.

Has the devil been successful at his schemes? You be the judge.



February

9 – Kooper Allard

18 – Bev Hamnes

23 – Lauren Vad

25 – Andrew Bremner

26 - Dorothy Beyer

Sympathy is extended to Ronnie Martin and family on the loss of his brother.

February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:00 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Service		1	2 2:00 PW 7:00 Parish Council	3	4	5
6	7 10:00 Quilters 6:00 Happy Hearts	8	9 2:00 UMW	10	11	12
13	14 10:00 Quilters 	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 10:00 Quilters 6:00 Happy Hearts	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					