

THE CHURCH IN HAMILTON NEWSLETTER

8 November 2020

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Morning Revival Schedule

The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age and the Coming of the Lord

Week beginning:

9 Nov – Wk 3: The Losing of the Soul Life, Participating in the Rapture of the Overcomers and Receiving the End of Our Faith-the Salvation of the Soul.

Bible Reading Schedule

Mon	Galatians 2-3	Eph. 1:22-23 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church, Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
Tue	Galatians 4	
Wed	Gal. 5 – Eph. 1	
Thu	Ephesians 2-3	
Fri	Ephesians 4-5	
Sat	Ephesians 6	
LD	Philippians 1-2	

Ministry Digest Reading Schedule

Ministry Digest Vol. 2, No. 8

Week beginning:

9 Nov – The Basic Way Ordained by God in the Building Up of the Body of Christ to Consummate His Eternal Goal – The New Jerusalem (1).

Today's Radio Broadcast

Time of Broadcast: 2:30 pm on Free FM 89.0 MHz
Life-Study of Colossians 46: The Peace of Christ Arbitrating in Our Heart

International Prayer Burden

Mon	Turkey	Please pray for the Lord's second coming
Tue	USA	
Wed	France	
Thu	Spain	
Fri	Italy	
Sat	UK	
LD	Germany	

Weekly Church Accounts, 24–30 October

Total general offerings	\$8,259.65
Average expenses	\$8,000.00
Surplus	\$259.65
Total building fund offerings	\$230.00
Total loan of the church	\$749,918.54

Bibles for New Zealand (BFNZ)

Any saint who would like to obtain the **New Testament Recovery Version Bibles** to give away can get them from the church office or from the NZTC reception.

Jubilee Week, 22-28 November

Any young people who are interested in joining the *Jubilee Week* which will be held at NZTC should contact **Gloria Jiang** 021 086 07258.

2 Thessalonians 1:10 When He comes to be glorified in His saints and to be marveled at in all those who have believed (because our testimony to you was believed) in that day.

Upcoming Events, November–December

13-15 Nov	Mini-Conference, Richmond
22-28 Nov	Jubilee Week
26-29 Nov	Church Conference of LSM Int. Thanksgiving Conference
12-13 Dec	Blending Conference with Brother Ron Kangas
18 Dec	Full-time Training Graduation
19-27 Dec	Summer Blending, Queenstown (www.summer.blendingtrip.org)
26 Dec-1 Jan	Church Video Training of the LSM Semi-annual Training
26 Dec-2 Jan	Summer School of Truth

Monthly Lord's Day Lunch in the Homes

Our next opportunity to blend with the saints from different districts in the homes is on **6 December**. May the Lord continue to pour His blessing through such time!

Saturday Church Practical Service at 22B Gordonton Rd

9:00 am – 10:00 am	Ministry of the Word	“In the coordinated service of the church every brother and sister, every member, is necessary. Even the smallest member is necessary.”
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Morning tea	
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Practical service	
The next cooking workshop will be on 14 November at 10:30 AM. Menu – Chicken Pie.		

2020 International Thanksgiving Conference

LSM will be holding the 2020 International Thanksgiving Conference online. The church in Hamilton will hold a physical gathering for this conference at the New Zealand Training Centre (33 Beale Street) where we can all gather physically to watch the messages. The messages will be shown in English, Chinese and Korean at three different locations at the Training Centre.

The schedule will be (**please note that the meeting times have changed**):

- Message 1: **6:45 PM** Thursday 26 November
- Message 2: **6:45 PM** Friday 27 November
- Message 3: **9:45 AM** Saturday 28 November
- Message 4: **6:45 PM** Saturday 28 November
- Message 5: 3:00 PM Lord's Day 29 November**
- Message 6: **6:45 PM** Lord's Day 29 November

Please note that the time that was announced for message 5 last week has changed. We will still have our usual Lord's Day meeting in our districts on 29 November.

Please arrive promptly for the meetings. Registration is not required and there is no fee to attend this conference.

Please pray for the Lord's blessing upon this conference. May it turn out to be a real memorial among us to the shame of God's enemy and to the glory of God's grace!

2020 Summer Conference replaced by Church Video Training

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we will not be having any brothers from overseas visit to take our Summer Conference this year. Therefore, instead of having a Summer Conference, the Church in Hamilton will have a video training of the Living Stream Ministry's December semi-annual training at the end of the year. The video training will be from **Saturday 26 December to Friday 1 January**. We will announce more details and provide a registration link closer to the time.

“The Lord is the Lord of glory (1 Cor. 2:8); He was glorified in His resurrection and ascension (John 17:1; Luke 24:26; Heb. 2:9). Now He is in us as the hope of glory (Col. 1:27) to bring us into glory (Heb. 2:10). At His coming back, on the one hand He will come from the heavens with glory (Rev. 10:1; Matt. 25:31), and on the other hand He will be glorified in His saints; that is, His glory will be manifested from within His members, causing their body of humiliation to be transfigured into His glory, conforming it to the body of His glory (Phil. 3:21). Thus, the unbelievers will marvel at Him, admire Him, wonder at Him, in us, His believers. — Footnote 1, Second Thessalonians 1:10

THE FELLOWSHIP OF LIFE

I. The meaning of the fellowship of life:

A. Sharing in common.

1 Cor. 10:16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the fellowship of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the fellowship of the body of Christ?

Philem. 1:6 That the fellowship of your faith may become effective in the full knowledge of every good thing which is in you for Christ.

B. The flowing of the divine life within us:

1 John 1:2-3 (And the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and report to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us); That which we have seen and heard we report also to you that you also may have fellowship with us, and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:5 And this is the message which we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and are not practicing the truth;

1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.

1. Vertically between the Father, the Son, and us—v. 6.

2. Horizontally between us and one another—v. 7.

II. The source of the fellowship of life—the eternal life of God—vv. 2-3.

III. The means of the fellowship of life—the Holy Spirit.

2 Cor. 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

IV. The location of the fellowship of life—our spirit.

Phil. 2:1 If there is therefore any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of spirit, if any tenderheartedness and compassions,

V. The function of the fellowship of life—supplying us with all the riches of the divine life.

John 15:4-5 Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

VI. The issue of the fellowship of life:

A. Bringing light to us—1 John 1:5-7.

B. Bringing the practical cleansing of the blood to us—v. 7.

C. Keeping us abiding in the Lord.

John 15:4-5 Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

VII. The relationship between the fellowship of life and the sense of life:

A. The fellowship of life being realized by the sense of life.

B. The sense of life preserving the fellowship of life.

VIII. The breaking of the fellowship of life:

A. By sins.

B. By disobedience.

C. By not caring for the sense of life.

D. By not following the inner anointing.

1 John 2:27 And as for you, the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone teach you; but as His anointing teaches you concerning all things and is true and is not a lie, and even as it has taught you, abide in Him.

IX. The restoration of the fellowship of life:

A. By the confessing of our sins.

1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

B. By the cleansing of the blood.

Focus: The fellowship of life, being the flowing of the divine life, comes from the life of God and is preserved by the sense of life to supply us with the riches of the divine life.

BLENDING CONFERENCE

with

BROTHER RON KANGAS

There will be a blending conference with brother Ron Kangas on 12 and 13 December 2020. We strongly encourage all saints to attend this time.

This conference will be conducted in both a physical format and an online format. We encourage as many saints as possible to attend the physical conference, which will take place in all 3 languages (English, Chinese and Korean) at the New Zealand Training Centre.

The meeting schedule will be:

Message 1: 10 AM-12 PM Saturday 12 December

Message 2: 3 PM-5 PM Saturday 12 December

Message 3: 10 AM-12 PM Lord's Day 13 December

Message 4: 3 PM-5 PM Lord's Day 13 December

In addition to the blending conference, brother Ron will fellowship with the responsible brothers between 8 AM and 9:30 AM on both Saturday 12 December and the Lord's Day 13 December.

Registration details to follow.

SERVING IN COORDINATION IN THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH (1)

eye, I am not of the body, it is not that because of this it is not of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were the hearing, where would the smelling be? But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, even as He willed. And if all were one member, where would the body be? But now the members are many, but the body one. And the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you; nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. But much rather the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. And those members of the body which we consider to be less honourable, these we clothe with more abundant honour; and our uncomely members come to have more abundant comeliness, but our comely members have no need. But God has blended the body together, giving more abundant honour to the member that lacked" (1 Cor. 12:14-24).

The church is the Body of Christ. Every believer has a part in the church and is a member of the Body of Christ—the church. We, the many members added together, are the Body of Christ. Each member has a function, and all these functions belong to the Body of Christ and are for the Body of Christ. Therefore, to exercise our function as a member, **we must be in the Body of Christ and for the Body of Christ.** Consequently, in the church **we must coordinate with one another in the service with all the saints**, our fellow members. This service in coordination with all the saints is the **corporate service of the church**, which is especially **pleasing to the Lord**. He particularly wants to gain this, and it is especially **effective in bringing in the Lord's blessing**.

If we want to serve in coordination with all the saints in the church, we must **deal with our individualism** in spiritual matters. We must **deal with our independence** in matters of service. We must also **deal with our flesh, temper, disposition, self, and natural man**. If these are not dealt with and broken by the cross, it will be impossible for us to serve in the church in coordination with all the saints, and it will be impossible for the Lord to gain the corporate service of His Body in the church. We must **go through the dealing of the Holy Spirit and the breaking of the**

cross in order to have the coordinated service of the church. We must allow the Holy Spirit to use the cross to crucify our flesh, disposition, self, individualism, and independence so that we can coordinate with all the saints in the church to **manifest the service of the Body of Christ**.

Because we are members of the Body of Christ, **our function is both of the Body of Christ and for the Body of Christ**. According to the rule and principle, we must live in the Body of Christ, the church, in order to manifest our function as members. If we are not in the church, there will be a problem with our function. Our physical body is living, and every member that is attached to it can exercise according to its function. However, once a member becomes detached, it dies and loses its function. There is also a beautiful and lovable aspect to the living and functioning of any member that is attached to a living body, but as soon as a member is separated from the body, it becomes not only dead and functionless but also ugly and frightening. A living and functioning hand that is attached to our body is beautiful and lovable. When people see us, they even want to shake our hand. But if our hand is separated from our body, it will not only lose its function; it will also become something quite frightening to others. This is the condition of some believers before the Lord. They are separated from the church, they have lost their function as members, and they have become quite frightening to others. May the Lord have mercy on such brothers and sisters, and may He have mercy on us!

In the coordinated service of the church every brother and sister, every member, is necessary. Even the smallest member is necessary. In our body no member is so small that it does not have any function. **Every member, no matter how small, has a function;** therefore, every member is necessary. If we truly see the service of the Body of Christ and truly know the coordinated service of the church, we will realize that every brother and sister is necessary. The brothers and sisters need us, and we need every brother and sister. **Everyone must exercise his function so that we can have coordination in the service of the church.**

(Crucial Truths in the Holy Scriptures, Vol. 3, Chapter 3, Section 2)



In the coordinated service of the church every brother and sister, every member, is necessary.

Every member, no matter how small, has a function.

Everyone must exercise his function so that we can have coordination in the service of the church.

THE BELIEVERS' ATTITUDE TOWARD THE Coming of Christ

1. Loving It, Awaiting It, and Taking It as an Encouragement

Since we know that the Lord's second coming is so precious, we should love the Lord's appearing (2 Tim. 4:8). The Bible concludes with "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev. 22:20). From the record in the New Testament, it is not difficult to discover that in their hearts the apostles firmly believed that the Lord would come quickly, and they also lived a life in preparation for the Lord's second coming. In the church's history, I know that Miss M. E. Barber was one who lived such a life. On the last day of 1925, Brother Nee went to pray with her, and she prayed, "Lord, do You really mean to say that You will let 1925 pass by, that You will wait until 1926 before You come back? However, on this last day I still pray that You will come back today!" Not long afterward, Brother Nee met her on the street, and again she said to him, "It is really strange that up to this day He has not yet come back." Do not think that since we are clear concerning the signs of the Lord's coming, we can be slothful and can first love the world and then pursue the Lord when the last week comes. There is no such convenience. We should believe that the Lord is to be feared. In Luke 12 the Lord gave a parable concerning a rich man who endeavoured to lay up wealth for himself so that his soul might enjoy itself and be merry. But God said to him, "Foolish one, this night they are requiring your soul from you" (vv. 16-20). Every "today" that we have is truly the Lord's grace. Therefore, as long as we have today, as long as we still have breath, we should love the Lord and His appearing, await the Lord's coming (Phil. 3:20), and always take His coming as an encouragement.

In 2 Timothy 4:1 Paul said to Timothy, "I solemnly charge you before God and Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom." This is an exhortation from Paul immediately before his martyrdom. He said that he had fought the

good fight, he had finished the course, and he had kept the faith, and that at the judgment seat he would be awarded the crown of righteousness, which would be awarded to all those who have loved His appearing (vv. 6-8). He reminded Timothy, and also us, by the Lord's judgment and kingdom, that we should have a living that loves the Lord's appearing. This will cause us not to be discouraged, not to backslide, not to become weak, but to remain faithful to the end.

2. Watching and Being Ready for It

When the Lord comes, He will come secretly as a thief to those who love Him and will steal them away as His treasures and bring them into His presence in the heavens (Matt. 24:42-43). Hence, we need to watch and be ready (25:13; 24:44). If we desire to be raptured, first we must be filled with the heavenly breath and have oil in our vessels. If we are rooted on the earth and occupied daily with the anxieties of this life and with earthly pleasures, we will not be raptured at that time. We should remember Lot's wife. Because she loved and treasured the evil world, which God was going to judge and utterly destroy, she took a backward look. Thus, she became a pillar of salt and was left to suffer in a place of shame. This should be a warning to us. If we love the world, the Lord will leave us

here to pass through the great tribulation so that we may be put to shame until we become mature and are raptured.

3. Beseeching to Prevail to Escape

The Lord also reminded us to take heed to ourselves and to be watchful at every time, beseeching lest our hearts be weighed down with debauchery and drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that the day of the great tribulation come upon us suddenly as a snare; for it will come in upon all those dwelling on the face of all the earth. We should guard our hearts and give all the room to the Lord so that we may prevail to escape all these things and stand before the Son of Man (Luke 21:34-36; cf. Rev. 12:5-6, 14).

To attain maturity is not an overnight matter. Therefore, for His coming we must prepare ourselves, love Him, and grow in Him, that at His appearing we may be mature to be raptured and receive the reward.

(The Collected Works of Witness Lee, 1990, vol. 3, "The Up-to-date Presentation of the God-ordained Way and the Signs concerning the Coming of Christ," pp. 585-588)

2 Tim. 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, with which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will recompense me in that day, and not only me but also all those who have loved His appearing.