



Lines from Larry

### PEP RALLY VS. PREACHING

When I was in high school we would have pep rallies. One definition of a pep rally is “a meeting aimed at inspiring enthusiasm, especially one held before a sporting event.” I must admit the only pep rallies we had in high school were prior to a home game usually where we wanted to beat a rival team because it was homecoming or senior night. Most of the pep rallies were held in the gym but sometimes they would go downtown to the square and hold one where the whole community could participate.

I must admit I did not attend most of the pep rallies. I know this might come as a shock, but living just a few blocks from the school I usually walked to school except when there was going to be a pep rally. If we were going to have a pep rally I would drive to school and park close to the gym. Then while everyone else was going to the gym I would go get in my car and lay down in the seat until after the rally began and then I would leave. When they would go downtown we would go past our house so I would just go inside and on their way back I would rejoin everyone as we walked back to the school.

My personal thoughts were that pep rallies were a waste of time. I mean seriously, putting on funny looking clothing, painting faces, yelling and screaming to the top of one’s lungs, and hearing people say things like “we want to pump you up!” It almost seemed like a pseudo-supporter of the team. After all, if one really supported the team is a pep rally necessary? Please bear with me.

We read in Acts 4:36 that Barnabas was a “son of encouragement.” The word used here literally means to come along side of someone and help them in an area they are unable to help themselves. This word is used over 100 times in the New Testament. In fact, it is used in Hebrews 10:25 when the writer says, “not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourageing one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

WOW! Was I wrong about pep rallies? Was I wrong about those pep speeches? Was I wrong about the pep band? (Yes, I played in the pep band at basketball games.) Was I wrong about coming alongside of the team to show my support?

So is corporate worship supposed to be a pep rally?

I read passages from Job and realize his friends did not come to encourage him, but to condemn him as a sinner. Aaron and Mariam did not come to encourage Moses, but to question his authority to lead the nation of Israel into the Promised Land. The Scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, the Chief Priest, and the Elders did not come to encourage Jesus in His ministry, but rather to find out how to destroy Him. The Sanhedrin did not arrest Peter and John to encourage them to continue preaching about Jesus, but rather to discourage them from preaching about Jesus. And the list could go on and on and on.

I also read passages where there was no pep rally. By that I mean there was nothing that looked like the kind of pep rallies many churches are having today. I know many churches had decided “worship” is about the smoke-filled stage, the performance of the musicians, the “we’re here to pump you up” speeches, and the theatrics of lights flashing, etc. Worship has been redefined to be more like a pep rally instead of a time to pray and read God’s word. In Acts 8, Philip got into a vehicle with the Ethiopian eunuch and began teaching him about Jesus from the book of Isaiah, but there was no pep rally. There was no music, no flashing lights, no smoke, and no theatrics. In Acts 16, Paul and Silas were in prison in Philippi. After the earthquake, the jailer asked what he must do to be saved, and Paul simply told him about Jesus. Absent were the things many believe are necessary in order to lead someone to Christ today.

Paul told the Colossians in 4:2, “devote yourselves to prayer.” Absent were any mentions of pep rallies or fanfare theatrics. Years ago I had an elder’s wife ask me why we had so many prayers during church and why we spent a lot of time reading Scripture. I thought that was why we gathered together so we could pray and read God’s word. (Interesting that prayer and reading Scripture were absent from Job’s friends visit.)

Paul wrote to the Thessalonians in 1:5, “because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction.” You almost get the idea “just the facts, mam, just the facts.” And in verse 6, “you welcomed the message in the midst of suffering” and in verse 7, “you became a model to all the believers” and in verse 8, “your faith in God has become known everywhere.” All this happened because they heard about Jesus without all the pep rally stuff.

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## Those serving in October

	1	8	15	23	29
Children's Church	Joni & Peggy	Judy & Brenda	Judy & Brenda	None	None
Communion Med & Prayer	Scott	Roger K.	Randy	Blaine	Rodney
Com. To Shut-ins	Andy	Roger K.	Randy	Larry	Rodney
Communion Prep	Joan H.	Joan H.	Joan H.	Joan H.	Joan H.
Front Door Greeter	Barb K.	Peggy	Brenda H.	Tina	Blaine
Greeters	Blaine & Tina	Barb & Roger	Angie & Dennis	Sue & Jimmy	Diane B & Betty D.
Musician	Marcia	Cheryl	Cheryl	Cheryl	Cheryl
Nursery	Angie	Alice C.	Angie	Alice C.	Angie
Offering Prayer	Andy	Nate	Blaine	Randy	Mark T.
Opening Prayer	Nate	Andy	Jancye	Marc	Randy
Screen	Marcus	Heaven	Marcus	Rodney	Ruby
Scripture Reading	Blaine	Tina	Rodney	Larry	Jancey
Sound	Rodney	Mark T.	Nate	Andy	Nate
Vocals	Jeri Lyn, Hannah & Shawna	Jeri Lyn, Joni & Tina	Jancye, Hannah & Shawna	Jancye, Joni & Tina	Hannah, Shawna & Tina

### Announcements

Small Study groups will be at 6:30 PM on Sunday.

**October 4:** Soup and sandwich luncheon and games will be held every first Wednesday of the month starting at 11 AM. Bring a dish to share, soup or dessert.

**October 8:** Birthday Sunday

Collecting for St. Joseph's Food Pantry

Weenie Roast/Hay ride at Nate and Jancye's

**October 12:** Board meeting at 7 PM.

**October 14:** Steve Ladd in Concert at Liberty Christian Church in Brownstown. See flyer on the bulletin board.

**October 22:** Penny Sunday.

**November 7-9:** Lifetouch here for pictures.

### Birthday's

10/1 Leanna Morrell	10/17 Japheth Casey
10/2 Donna Thull	10/18 Jaxson Sampson
Jimmy Gallion Sr.	10/19 Jeremy Saunders
10/5 Brenda Benhoff	10/21 Lisa Saunders
Noelan Casey	10/22 Daniel Hortenstine
10/7 Andrea Eckhardt	Emily Lay
10/9 Ronnie Stapp	10/23 Madison Click
10/13 Jennifer Barenfanger	10/24 Kenzie Harris
Marissa Carroll	Brenda Stevens
10/14 Amanda Cunningham	10/28 Kelli Pryor
10/17 Pat Click, III	Stephanie Thomas





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Just so we are clear...I'm not against pep rallies. In fact we have had "pep rallies" in churches better known as revivals, power weekends, friend and family days, homecomings, conferences, conventions, etc. All these things are supposed to get us to do what Jesus wants us to do – "GO INTO ALL THE WORLD MAKING DISCIPLES, BAPTIZING, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE EVERYTHING I HAVE TAUGHT YOU." We are supposed to be coming alongside of people who are hurting and help heal their hurts. We are supposed to come alongside those who are discouraged and give them hope. We are supposed to come alongside those who have sin issues and help them to get their life in order so one day they can go to heaven. And most of all we are to encourage them to continue in their walk with Christ until He returns or they die.

Some people need pep rallies and others just need the facts. But most of all we all need Jesus in our lives. We all need to be encouraged to live for Jesus. So tell someone today about Jesus.



Dear Family and Friends of Ramsey Christian Church:

We are excited to have you be a part of our new church directory. We will be able to put names and faces together and you will be able to receive a free 8 x 10 family photo just for coming and being photographed.

During the next few weeks you will be given more and more details regarding this church directory. Here is some basic information to get us started.

The photography dates will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 2:00-9:00 PM on November 7, 8, and 9, 2017.

If you have email you will be able to click on a photo icon and schedule your own appointment. You will need the following information to schedule your appointment: Username: host306192 and the Password: RamseyCC.

If you do not have email, then you can sign up at the church before and after the Sunday morning worship service.

You can help us with activity pages by taking photos of church events and then sending those photos to me or Joanne.

If you have any questions, just let me know.

Serving Jesus,

Larry Daniel

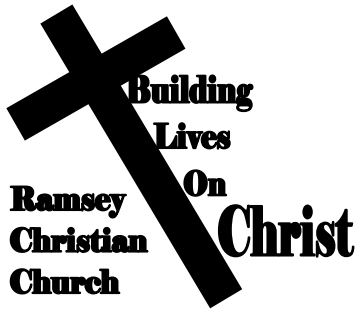


You should be able to Control+Click on the image to schedule your appointment. If not use this link to put into your computer: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y6qshcv6/>

Non-Profit Organization  
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(618) 423-2121  
www.ramseychristianchurch.com

Senior Minister: Larry Daniel  
larrygdaniel@hotmail.com  
479-372-0729 or 618-423-9973



#### Attendance

9/3 75  
9/10 101  
9/17 88  
9/24 74

#### Offering

9/3 \$3025.00  
Birthday Sunday \$8.00  
St. Joseph's \$217.55  
9/10 \$1556.00  
9/17 \$1897.00  
Love Offering for Myra Green  
\$529.00  
Penny Sunday \$111.83  
9/24 \$2011.00  
Love offering for Jambard  
Funeral expenses: \$1565.00

**RCC's Core Values**  
*Rooted in the Word*  
*Centered on Christ*  
*Committed to Service*

#### Ramsey Christian Church

Fellowship Time: 8:30 AM  
Worship Service: 9:00 AM  
Sunday School & Adult Electives: 10:30-11:00 AM  
Tuesday: Ladies Bible Study: 8:30 AM  
Wednesday: J.A.M. 5:45 to 7 PM

# Missions

Bond Christian Service Camp  
Inner City Mission of Springfield, IL  
Lighthouse Pregnancy Center  
Lincoln Christian University  
Northwest Haiti Christian Mission  
Pinehaven Children's Ranch-Montana  
St. Louis Christian College  
Tim Doggett-Africa  
Jeff Stone—Assembly of God World Missions