"What Is The Aim of This New By-Law?" (Part 2) Matthew 28:18-20

"What sea could furnish my eyes with tears enough to pour out if I should think that of all this congregation, which looks me in the face now, I should not meet one at the resurrection, at the right hand of God?"

— John Donne

"Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire." (Hebrews 12:28-29)

- Matthew 28:18-20:
 - What Is a Disciple?
 - One who has put their faith in Christ and repented of their sins.
 - One who has expressed their faith by being baptized.
 - One who wants to be taught the truths of Scripture.
 - One who desires to share the gospel and the truths of Scripture with others.
 - One who is strengthened and encouraged by the Body of Christ to persevere. (Acts 14:22)

What is Water Baptism?

- It is an act of obedience to God.
- It is a public identification with Christ and a public identification with the work of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in our salvation.
- It is an expression of our union with Christ in His death and resurrection.

• The Weighty Reality of Salvation, Baptism, and Communion.

"And He said to all, 'If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me." (Luke 9:23); "So therefore, any of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be My disciple." (Luke 14:33); "strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God." (Acts 14:22; cf. 1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Weightiness and Seriousness Give Clarity to the Gospel and the Christian Life.

Because many children do not see a *joyful seriousness* in Christianity, that is a weightiness, a priority, a cost, they can easily think salvation and Christianity is trivial, fun, costless and unimportant in this life. Therefore a decision to follow Christ doesn't require maturity. People must see that Christianity is more than words; if not, many will continue to think they are Christians when they are not. (60% of America identifies as Christians).

Worship: Glorious Christ — Sovereign Grace Music

I Stand Amazed — Norton Hall Band

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery — Matt Boswell

→ Proposed By-Law Addition 2: Legacy Community Church suggests that all children who have made a confession of faith in Christ wait to be baptized until after the age of 12 (twelve). Children by nature, live in the here and now. They do not have the capacity to make wise decisions that will impact their future. They have no experience in making difficult choices on weighty issues and cannot contemplate the potential ramifications on themselves and others in making poor decisions. The word of God tells us that "foolishness is bound up in the heart of children" (Proverbs 22:15), that "children speak, think, and reason different than adults" (1 Corinthians 13:11), and that "children are easily tossed to and fro in what they believe" (Ephesians 4:14). In light of these truths and others, we believe it is wise to refrain from baptizing children before the age of 12 (twelve) so that we are above reproach in all practices in the Church.

Announcements:

- **★DONATIONS:** For more information about our July donation collection, please see the July Newsletter! **NEXT Sunday** is the LAST day for this collection!
- ★<u>MEMBERS' MEETING:</u> We are having a Members' Meeting TODAY, immediately following the worship service. This is an important meeting, so if you are currently a Church Member, please plan on staying for this meeting. We will be voting on everything presented at the June Members' Meeting EXCEPT for the proposed By-Law Addition about Baptism. We will be having a time of discussion about that proposed By-Law Addition during the meeting today!
- ★ CHURCH GAME NIGHT: Our monthly Church Game Night is TONIGHT, at Andy's house (1062 National Road SE; Hebron), starting at 5pm. Please bring your favorite games to play. Dinner will not be provided, so please make sure you bring a finger food or a snack to share with everyone!
- ★FELLOWSHIP LUNCH: We are having a Fellowship Lunch NEXT Sunday, July 27th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the table in the Entryway, please sign-up to bring something for the meal. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us.
- ★CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER: Our monthly Church Night of Prayer is NEXT Sunday, July 27th, from 5:30-7pm. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body. Please consider joining us for a portion of this time or for the full time of prayer.
- ★CEDAR POINT: Christina Strawn is organizing a group trip to Cedar Point on Saturday, August 23rd. Group Admission tickets are \$50 each. Please contact Christina Strawn if you would like to go or if you have any questions (740)755-6512.