Notes for 1st Sunday in September 2022

**Queens Chapel U.M. Church**

**Beltsville, MD**

Rev. Dr. Will Butler, Pastor

**“The Power of Becoming the Church” (Part 4)**

 The church of today is not a place or building I go to every Sunday. The church is not an event I attend or a place where I get a warm and fuzzy feeling, or a place where I listen to my favorite singers or choir.

The Benefits of becoming a member of a church

1) **You Discover your True Identity**

2 Corinthians 5:17 (The Living Bible)

2 **Your church Family Becomes Your Support System**

 Ephesians 2:21-22 (NIV)

3 **You Discover your Unique Value to Humanity**

1. God created everyone unique
2. God custom-shaped you

**Psalms 139:13-16 (New Century Version)**

*“You made my whole being; You formed me in my mother's body. I praise You because You made me in an amazing and wonderful way. You saw my bones being formed as I took shape in my mother's body. When I was put together there, You saw my body as it was formed. All the days planned for me were written in Your book before I was one day old.”*

4 **You Receive Protection for Your Mind**

**Matthew 22:37 (NKJV)**

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.”

1. Being a member of the church gives one three advantages:

 a) We become spiritually—minded **Romans 8:6**

*“…letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.*

 b) We become Bible Strong (Bible Study)

**Isaiah 26:3**

“You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You,

Because he trusts in You.”

 c) We become prayer-focused

**Philippians 4:6-7**

*6 Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.*

*Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.*

*7 Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything*

*we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds*

*as you live in Christ Jesus.*

1. **You Become Productive Disciples**
2. Special abilities (Spiritual Gifts)
3. It is your giftedness that enables the church to face problems in our world

**1 Peter 4:10 (CEV)**

*“Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts to be used in serving of others. So use your gift well.” 1 Peter 4:10 (CEV)*