

THE CHURCH AND ITS WORK

The **fourth question** asked prospective Presbyterian church members is: *Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?* Before anyone can honestly and intelligently say "yes" to this question, he must know something about the church and its work. The Bible describes the church as "the body of Christ." Christ is the Head of the body, and those who believe in Him as Lord and Savior are the members of the body. The work of the church is to worship God, to teach and preach the Bible, and to provide fellowship for its members. The church does its work through its teachers, preachers and missionaries; through its services and sacraments; through its organizations and activities; through its schools and colleges; through its boards and agencies; and through its literature. How can an individual church member support the worship and work of the whole church? One of the most important ways is by attending its services faithfully (Heb. 10:25). He can share in the work of the church by doing willingly whatever he is asked to do (Col. 3:23). Church members support the work of the church by their gifts. We believe every Christian ought to tithe - to give a tenth of his income to the work of the Lord (Mal. 3:10). But the most important way a church member can support his church is to pray for it. This is something which every member can do (1 Thess. 5:17).