

“...strengthen thy brethren”



Luke 22:32

CHURCH OF CHRIST

of Genesee County

5284 Fenton Road, Flint, Michigan 48507

February 19, 2017

Welcome All:

We are thankful to have you with us today. The Lord's church here is dedicated to the restoration of New Testament Christianity, respecting both the authority and the silence of the Scriptures.

Again, thank you for worshipping God today.

Schedule of Services for Gospel Meeting

Worship...	Sunday	11:00 a.m.
	Sunday	6:00 p.m.
Bible Study...	Sunday	10:00 a.m.
	Wednesday	6:00 p.m.

Website: www.coc-gc.org

Preacher: Michael Golwitzer (810) 771-4627

PRAYER LIST

Freda Potter—in hospital-sister to Phyllis

Pryia Vannoy—tests

Tracy Clark—health

Marty Stearns - health problems

Al Haskell—waiting for kidney donor

Chuck Smith—heart, Sciatic

Lauren Weidner-encouragement

Bob Elder-tests for cancer

McKenna Schummer-Jeannie's cousin-cancer (10 yrs old)

Jody Rynca-cancer-Cindy's friend

Tom Corbin —Cher'e -relative-in hospital with cancer

Ireland Family—health problems-Cindy's friends

Wayne Hamilton-health problems-Cindy's friend

Donna Duford-health problems-Betty's daughter

Susan Wills-encouragement-Betty's daughter

Debra Crewse-surgery-Betty's daughter

Earlene Currier-Betty's aunt—health

Patty Lewis-Chuck's daughter—recovering from surgery

Delores McIntosh—Cancer—Mike's Sister

Marie Hall-recovering from hip surgery

Kathy and Misty Davis-health problems-Cindy's friends

Carol Tobkin-cancer and receiving chemo treatments

Don Cross-Cher'e -uncle-cancer/chemo

Edith Taylor-Bill's mother

Cody Cantrell-coma-Bill's friend.

Rachel Hall—health problems

Sermons:

AM: SEARCHING FOR THE LORD'S CHURCH

PM: MAKING WISE CHOICES

Ladies Bible Class

Every second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am.
The next class is February 14th.

Do You Feel Spiritually Weak?

One dark winter evening, an elder made a trip to the country to visit a member who had missed assembling with the saints for several weeks. He found the member in his living room, sitting in front of a roaring fire in the fireplace. They passed a few pleasantries, and then both got quiet. The elder reached for a poker and used it to push a red hot ember out of the glowing fire and onto the hearth by itself. They both watched as the glowing ember faded, turned gray, then black. It died. The member looked at the elder and said, "I see your point. I'll be back Sunday."

A major purpose of our assemblies is to encourage one another, provoking one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24-25). One of the criteria that determines whether an activity is appropriate for the assembly is whether it edifies or builds up those who are present (1 Corinthians 14). It would be very difficult alone to maintain good morale and stay enthusiastic about the Lord and the good works to which He calls His saints. The common meaning of *ecclesia*, the word translated "church" in the New Testament, is "assembly" (see Acts 19:32, 39, 41). Everett Ferguson correctly observes, "in assembly the church becomes itself." The *ecclesia* cannot cease to assemble and still be the *ecclesia* (The Church of Christ, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996, p. 235).

The Lord knows we need each other; we will not make it on our own; so He calls us to come together for encouragement and remembrance. In 1 Corinthians 11, the Lord's Supper is being discussed, the memorial Jesus gave His church to help us remember His body and blood, His body sacrificed, and His blood poured out for our sins. The Corinthians had so desecrated the Lord's Supper that what they did was not the Lord's Supper at all. Since they missed the meal's significance, it did not provide them the spiritual sustenance for which the Lord had designed it. **1 Corinthians 11:28-30 (KJV)** But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup. For he that eateth

and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep" Do you find yourself spiritually ailing, spiritually weak, or maybe even spiritually dying? How are you and the communion feast getting along? Do you faithfully partake each Lord's Day? Are you spasmodic in attendance? Have you forsaken it altogether? Has the Lord's Supper become a meaningless ritual, something done perfunctorily, without bringing its purpose to mind? Has it become just a time to make out a check for the contribution or to plan where you are going for dinner or to check your watch to see whether we are still on time to get out within the hour?

The supper is designed to remind us of the Lord's death, from now until He comes again (1 Corinthians 11:26). Do you think about its significance? "But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone" (Hebrews 2:9). "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world*" (1 John 2:2) "For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. (2 Corinthians 5:21). A weekly reminder of Christ's sacrifice, which the Lord understood we needed, can fortify us to walk after the Spirit instead of the flesh. It can provide spiritual sustenance that will enable us to exercise our senses to discern good and evil and the strength to choose the good.

Conversely, missing the communion with Jesus and His church, whether by not being present for it or by failing to mentally participate if present, can lead to spiritual lethargy, illness and death. "For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." (1 Corinthians 11:23-24). Listen to Jesus. Eat and drink in remembrance of Him.

(from Gospel Advocate, January 2017)