

# CHURCH OF CHRIST

of Genesee County

5284 Fenton Road, Flint, Michigan 48507

## Schedule of Services

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

**August 16, 2020**



Website: [www.coc-gc.org](http://www.coc-gc.org)

Marty and Joyce Stearns.

Gracie and Tracy Clark.

Joan's brother Hurley—is doing better and Opal, sister

Christena Apostolico in Ohio—health, and Donna

**P** Bill Alldaffer—encouragement

Cindy Atkinson—health. (knee), Cindy's friends-Ireland

**R** Family, Wayne Hamilton, Kathy, Jody Rynca-cancer,

Mitchell Larson and Walt and Ilene Davenport—health,

**A** Marie Hall—health. Friend Jackie is in need of prayers.

Betty requests prayers for Earlene Currier-health-Betty's

**Y** Aunt, Betty's daughters: Donna, Carrie, Susan Wills,

Debra and Lauren Weidner-grand-daughter, Joyce

**E** Harrison—Betty's cousin

Jeff Stevens—health

**R** Chere' - request prayers for Priya and Daniel

John and Linda Schafer-wife Linda is in need of prayer

Rachel Hall—health problems

**L** Dale and Sue Gregory—health

Pat Crain—fell and broke her hip

**I** Michael and Vivian Golwitzer—health

Marilyn Moffitt—health and family

Mason and family

Food closet: pasta

## SERMONS

AM: Leaving Us An Example

PM: Life Line

## Throw Out the Lifeline

Throw out the lifeline across the dark wave;  
There is a brother whom someone should save;  
Somebody's brother! Oh, who then will dare  
To throw out the lifeline, his peril to share?

Refrain:

Throw out the lifeline! Throw out the lifeline!  
Someone is drifting away;  
Throw out the lifeline! Throw out the lifeline!  
Someone is sinking today..

Throw out the lifeline with hand quick and strong:  
Why do you tarry, why linger so long?  
See! he is sinking; oh, hasten today  
And out with the life boat! Away, then, away!

Throw out the lifeline to danger-fraught men,  
Sinking in anguish where you've never been;  
Winds of temptation and billows of woe  
Will soon hurl them out where the dark waters flow.

Soon will the season of rescue be o'er,  
Soon will they drift to eternity's shore;  
Haste, then, my brother, no time for delay,  
But throw out the lifeline and save them today.

This is the lifeline, oh, tempest-tossed men,  
Baffled by waves of temptation and sin;  
Wild winds of passion, your strength cannot brave,  
But Jesus is mighty, and Jesus can save.

Jesus is able! To you who are driv'n  
Farther and farther from God and from Heav'n,  
Helpless and hopeless, o'erwhelmed by the wave,  
We throw out the lifeline—'tis, "Jesus can save."

This is the lifeline, oh, grasp it today!  
See, you are recklessly drifting away;  
Voices in warning, shout over the wave,  
Oh, grasp the strong lifeline, for Jesus can save.

Throw Out the Lifeline  
Edwin S. Ufford, 1888

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Matthew 14:29-33 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried saying, Lord, save me. And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? And when they were come into the ship the wind ceased. Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

## God Is Concerned About Unity

Thomas B. Warren, Deceased PLUMBLINE -- Editor, Wayne Coats  
Volume 5 Number 3, October 2000

### WHAT SOLUTION DOES GOD'S WORD GIVE US?

Relevant at this point are a number of passages of Scripture which I have already discussed. Among these are: John 17:1-21; Ephesians 4:1-6; Romans 12:4-5; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; John 8:32; Acts 2:41-47; 1 John 1:4-7. Also relevant are such passages as Ephesians 2:13-16, which sets out the fact that reconciliation unto God is in the one body (the church) of Christ; Romans 6:3-5, which teaches that men are baptized into Christ; and Galatians 3:26-27, which teaches that men become sons of God when they are baptized into Christ. In the light of these, and other passages of Scripture, I conclude: (1) that acceptable unity is attained by persons being born again, into the family of God (the church), and (2) that this unity is maintained by "walking in the light" of God's word--that is, by living in harmony with the Lord's instructions for the Christian life.

### THIS UNITY IS ATTAINED BY THE NEW BIRTH

When men obey the gospel plan of salvation, they are "born again" into the family of God; they become "children" or "sons" of God. All in a family are united by virtue of their birth--by virtue of a common ancestry. All who are born into the same family partake of the same nature. It is true that the members of a family may grow apart. But this fact should not be viewed as detracting from the fact that men do attain unto a peculiar (and privileged) relationship to God when they are "born again." And when this occurs, such men also attain unto a peculiar relationship to one another. One is "born again"

in water as the means appointed by the Holy Spirit in its Word (the gospel) for the new birth. Note carefully these passages: John 3:1-5; Acts 8:26-40; Acts 10:47-48; Ephesians 5:26; Romans 6:3-5; Galatians 3:26-4:6. According to this latter passage, by means of the gospel ("the faith"), we become "sons of God" (and thus "born again," into the family of God). This occurs when we enter Christ. We enter Christ when we are baptized in obedience to the gospel (Rom. 6:3-5). From the "grave" of baptism, we arise to "walk in newness"--that is, in the state of having been "born again." Thus, Paul teaches us that by one Spirit were "we all baptized into one body" (1 Cor. 12:13)--the church, the "house" or family of God (1 Tim. 3:14,15). There is no other way to attain unity than by obeying the truth (1 Peter 1:22-25).

### THIS UNITY MAINTAINED BY "WALKING IN THE LIGHT"

Relevant to the question of maintaining unity, after it is attained, is the following passage: "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:6-7). Thus, it is clear that those sons of God who "walk in the light" (live in harmony with the gospel, Phil. 1:27) have fellowship one with another. This means that they thus maintain the unity which they attained in the new birth. Further, to say that sons of God can maintain fellowship ("walk in the light") while they (or at least some of them) "walk in the darkness" (live according to false doctrine) is to lie and do not the truth. Faithful sons of God are to "mark" those who believe and live by false doctrine (Rom. 16:17,18) and are to do nothing which would indicate approval of "going beyond" the word (2 John 9-11).

Children of God are never to speak or act in such fashion as to encourage acting out of harmony with God's will.

### CAN WE HAVE THIS UNITY TODAY?

Because we have the same "seed" (the word, Luke 8:11) as that "sown" (preached) by the inspired apostles and prophets (2 Peter 1:20,21; Eph. 3:5; 2 Tim. 3:16-17), we have the same power (to save) available to us; that is, we have the gospel, God's power to save (Rom. 1:16,17). Because we have that same power, we have the same power to attain and maintain unity as did those of the first century (Acts 2:14-47). When the "seed" of human religious doctrine is sown in the hearts of men and is believed and obeyed, those who thus obey become something other than sons of God. For example, let us suppose that in one building Minister X preaches "Pentecostal" doctrine to those assembled and that in another building Minister Y preaches "Jehovah's Witness" doctrine to those assembled there. It certainly ought to be clear to all that those who believe and obey "Pentecostal" doctrine do not enter the same "church" (religious body) as do those who believe and obey "Jehovah's Witness" doctrine. Thus, (since both of these groups preach false doctrines) they do not attain unto unity either with one another or with true sons of God (members of the Lord's church) by believing and obeying such doctrines. However, every person (without exception) who believes and obeys the true gospel of Christ enters the same body--that is, all of them are added by the Lord himself to the church for which he died (1 Cor. 12:13; Acts 2:36-47). Further, every child of God who walks in the light of God's word (lives in harmony with the gospel) has true fellowship ("unity") with every other baptized believer who thus walks (1 John 1:7). May God help us never to "give ground" or compromise on this vital matter of unity and fellowship, for God is concerned about unity--deeply and vitally concerned about it. Let us act in harmony with that concern. Let us by both speech and deed uphold scriptural unity and condemn unscriptural division.



**2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.**