



# The Weekly News of the **Northeast Church of Christ**



May 3, 2020

**Northeast Church of Christ** ♦ 15537 E. 9 Mile Rd. ♦ Eastpointe, MI 48021  
586-777-5470 ♦ Website: [www.necofchrist.org](http://www.necofchrist.org)  
E-mail: [northeastcofc@gmail.com](mailto:northeastcofc@gmail.com)

## **INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- ✱ **Our weekly Sunday morning worship services are live streamed on our Facebook page at 10:30.** They are saved on the page for you to view at a later time.
- ✱ **Ron is conducting digital Bible studies on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.** If you are interested in joining, you need to sign up for the free Zoom app and send your email address to Ron at [olemissrebels87@gmail.com](mailto:olemissrebels87@gmail.com) no later than Tuesday so you can be added to the group. You will receive an invitation on Wednesday night to join the meeting.
- ✱ **Our building will be open every Saturday from 12-3** to pick up communion supplies, paper bulletins or speak to or pray with an elder. If you wish to continue to keep up your contribution at this time, you can mail it to the building or drop it off on Saturdays from 12-3 or on Sunday mornings from 9-12.
- ✱ If you need help with shopping, errands, or anything else, call the office or an elder and we will find a way to assist you with your needs. If anyone is willing to help those in need, please let Joe or Bill know.

## **HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN**

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for us and rose from the dead, making salvation available as a gift (John 3:16; Romans 6:23). In order to benefit from this great sacrificial love, one must receive God's grace through faith in Christ and obedience to him (Romans 5:1-2; Hebrews 5:9). To become a Christian, the Bible teaches that we must believe in and put our trust in Christ (John 8:24), turn away from a life of sin (Luke 13:3), confess Jesus as Lord (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16). If you would like to further study this question of "What must I do to be saved?", please see our minister or one of our elders.

### **PREACHING MINISTER**

Ron Sanders, Jr.  
586-777-5470 (office)  
586-994-4219 (cell)  
[olemissrebels87@gmail.com](mailto:olemissrebels87@gmail.com)

### **SHEPHERDS**

Joe Mason            586-242-9044  
[josephmasonjm@aol.com](mailto:josephmasonjm@aol.com)  
Bill Nocita            313-910-2718  
[wnocita2001@gmail.com](mailto:wnocita2001@gmail.com)

### **DEACONS**

Tom Cardwell        586-362-8609  
[tcard149@gmail.com](mailto:tcard149@gmail.com)  
Mike Messier        313-690-2226  
[mmessier@mirealsource.com](mailto:mmessier@mirealsource.com)

## *In Our Thoughts and Prayers*

**Judy Flatt**, cousin in the Loftis family, is recovering from surgery in Tennessee for a blood clot affecting her heart, liver, and kidney.



Find us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/groups/northeastcofc](http://www.facebook.com/groups/northeastcofc)

### **SECRETARY**

Vicki Loftis ~ 586-777-5470 (office)  
586-246-6368 (cell)  
[vicki2952@gmail.com](mailto:vicki2952@gmail.com)

## **BUT WHAT IF . . .**

By Gary Henry

“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it” (Isaiah 55:10,11).

THE VERY ESSENCE OF FAITH IS TO “TRUST AND OBEY.” If a certain course of action seems wise to us and looks like it might lead to satisfactory results, it doesn’t take much faith to follow that course. But when we can’t see how a particular thing is going to turn out, or if we have a hunch that it might turn out disastrously, it takes faith to trust the person who formulated the plan and simply carry out the instructions that have been given to us.

We can only imagine what faith it took for Abraham to “trust and obey” when God said to leave his home in Ur (not to mention the things that God later commanded him to do). But faith was indeed the key. “By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, *not knowing where he was going*” (Hebrews 11:8).

Today, many of us try to be people of faith, but our faith often fails us. What God says can seem so contrary to common sense that we balk at obeying Him. So when someone points out to us, “This is what God says,” we tend to respond, “But what if . . . ?”

Even in worldly affairs, however, we shouldn’t always decide our course of action pragmatically, based on what we think will work. Our definition of what will “work” is often flawed, and in any case, we can’t see far enough ahead to know what the outcome of any decision will be. So we need to base our decisions *on proven principles rather than predictions of particular outcomes*.

In spiritual matters, we can take it for granted that God’s way will always work, that is, it will always accomplish the purpose that He had in mind, whether that purpose is clear to us or not. “[My word] shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.” So the question is not what will happen, but what our principles should be. And that’s just what God has given us in the Scriptures: a treasure chest of valid, time-tested, true-north *principles*.

“If one can be certain that his principles are right, he need not worry about the consequences”  
(Robert Elliott Speer).