

Church of Christ

77 Cogan Avenue
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
(518) 563-2970

August 19, 2018

DRIFTING AWAY

On a recent vacation, Tom was casually bobbing around on a raft just offshore. He closed his eyes, basking in the warm sun. Before he realized it, he had drifted too far from shore. He hopped off the raft to get back to the security of the sand, but the water was now over his head. He didn't know how to swim.

The drift of our lives away from God is just as subtle. And just as dangerous. We drift one thought at a time, one small choice at a time, and often one damaging doubt at a time. In fact, our adversary is delighted to help our rafts drift from the protection and presence of God by casting doubt on God's goodness to us. If you sense that your life has been set adrift—that God is not as close and precious as He used to be—then you may have just been in the riptide of an old trick of the enemy of your soul. The same trick he used to sever Eve's heart from the joy of her relationship with her Creator.

Satan's opening volley was not a blistering attack on God; it was a simply a question that he wanted Eve to think about. "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" (Genesis 3:1). Actually, God had said that she could eat of every tree but one. But Satan twisted the facts to suit his purposes and to lead Eve's mind to the conclusion that God was not the generous God she had known Him to be, but rather a stingy, restrictive, joy killer. Once she had let her heart drift to the wrong conclusion, it was easy for her to believe Satan's lie that God just wanted to keep her from being as knowledgeable as He is and that the threat of them dying was just God's way of

scaring them into compliance with His stingy ways. Satan still sets us adrift by planting doubt about God's Word and spinning the facts to his own evil advantage.

Once we begin to suspect God instead of trusting Him, we inevitably drift away from Him. So, beware! Your life is full of scenarios where Satan can put his deceitful twist on your experiences. He is the spin-doctor of hell, and as Jesus said, "When [Satan] lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44).

With that in mind, keep a lookout for some of Satan's favorite spins:

Lie #1: God is to blame for the evil that Satan has inflicted on our lives.

Lie #2: God has not rewarded me for being good. I've been used, not blessed!

Lie #3: God's rules are restrictive and oppressive. He just wants to take the fun out of my life.

Lie #4: God is good to others but not to me. He must not love me!

And there are many other lies, all custom-made for your head and heart. If you believe them, you have begun to drift away from the safe shores of God's love and protecting provision. You'll soon discover that you are adrift in the middle of nowhere, bobbing dangerously over your head. And count on it, as Eve was soon to learn, Satan won't stay around to make you happy and fulfilled. He'll be slithering off to more interesting company, leaving you in the deep waters of shame and regret.

Joe Stowell
getmorestrength.org

PRAY FOR...

Baker, Helen: Melinda's mother, health
Ballard, Nicki, moved
Bennett, Jim: health
Boula, Pat: Chris C's friend-heart valve replacement
Burna, Jennifer: Carl & Cindy's cousin, cancer
Cech, Matthew and Terry: health
Collins, Mary: Patty's friend, struggles
Dashnaw, Justin: surgery following diving accident
Elders, Alfred and Doug
Gundrum, Eloise: one year-old, cancer
Hagen, Wendy: health struggles
House Fire: Patty's neighbors, help needed
Kashorek, Lori: strength during chemo for cancer
Lapier, Lisa: Patty's neighbor, lung cancer
Laramy, Paul: Steven's brother, motorcycle accident
Lebeau, Steve & Gail: John's friends, health struggles
Lermineau, Sean: Carl and Cindy's relative, struggles
LePage, Jim Sr. and Gail: Jim L's parents, health
Miller, Jody: struggles
Missions: Brazil, Ghana, Malawi, Ukraine, Zambia
Nelson, Barb: Alex & Nick's grandmother, cancer
Page, Gary: Garth's friend, sick
Recovery: Eddie Bickford & Jean Buskey
Richardson, Elizabeth: Eddie's sister, health
Rice, John: Jim B's neighbor, cancer
Stapleton, Katelyn: job search and struggles
Traveling: Kashoreks
Warrick, Oaklyn: 1 year-old, heart surgeries
West, Larry: Melenda's friend in CA, health...
Whitfield, Freda: Mary Chambers' mother, health

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shepherds serving under the Good Shepherd:
Alfred Chambers, 901-205-8584
Doug Kashorek, preacher, 563-0835
c645-1509

available: by appointment

Schedule of Services

Sunday
Bible Class 10 A.M.
Morning Worship 11 A.M.

Wednesday

"Continue to help us keep this list updated and to pray for those mentioned in previous bulletins."

Welcome to Worship

The church of Christ that meets in Plattsburgh invites you to attend any of our services. We love having visitors and are honored for you to attend. We seek to follow the New Testament in all that we do in our worship services. Our primary aim in worship is to glorify and honor God by worshipping Him “in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24) Trusting in the promise of the gospel message, we now live out obedience to God’s Word as our only authority and pattern for our lives and the church. We want to encourage you to come and learn, worship, grow, and serve the Lord with us! “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity” (Psalm 133:1).

From the Shepherds ...

Today, Alfred will preach as the Kashoreks are gone on a trip, and John will conduct the elections and lead a discussion about B2BS. On 8/26-29, we’ll have our Back-2-Bible School (B2BS) with fall classes to follow with the start of the new school year.



We’ve Got Class!

Join us Next Sunday at 10 a.m. for: Adults: John’s class--Search For Truth, lesson 11 Youth classes as well ... and don’t forget to meet at Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Munchie Moments

Fellowship Meal: our next 4th Sunday meal will be 8/26 as part of B2BS.

Men’s Prayer Breakfast: our next 1st Sunday MPB is on 9/2 at 8 a.m.

Budget & B2BS Prep

Doug will be out of town for the 8/19 Family Meeting, so on Wednesday, 8/22, he’ll present the budget to start 9/1, leaving time for everyone to set up for Back-2-Bible School to begin that Sunday afternoon

Doug’s Devotional

“So he replied to the messengers, ‘Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard ...’” Luke 7:22.

John the Baptizer had been very confident about who Jesus was. When Jesus first came to him to be baptized in the Jordan, John declared that he was the one who needed to be baptized by He who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. Later, John testified that he had seen the Holy Spirit come down on Jesus and that Jesus was the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world and the Bridegroom. But, perhaps languishing in Herod’s prison was starting to get to John as he sent two to ask Jesus, “Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?” Jesus pointed to the many and varied miracles that He was doing and that were prophesied for the Messiah to do as proof that He was the One. Then Jesus widened John’s struggle to ours. “Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.” We all go through struggles and times in our lives that make us question the solid faith we once had. But, with all that Jesus is still doing in the world around us, we should not fall away on account of Him. What have you seen and heard?

Kashoreks Traveling

Doug will be gone next Sun. (8/19) and Wed. (8/22) as he and Lori are taking a trip to celebrate their 25th anniversary. Alfred will preach, and John will lead the family meeting.

Corporate Elections

To maintain our tax-exempt status and to have legal representatives for our church, we will hold elections for officers at the 8/19 family meeting. This satisfies NYS law and has no bearing on the biblical governing of the Lord’s church.

Sundae Toppings

Today: 12:30 p.m. Family Meeting
8/26, 3:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
9/2, 8 a.m. Men’s Prayer Breakfast
9/9, 12:30 p.m. Ladies’ Time



The Oasis Project

... is done for the summer! If you’d like to volunteer for next fall, let Doug or Mary Cl know.

Mission Moment

- Please pray for all our mission works.
- Please pray for Mary’s readers to have open hearts in Varadzin, Croatia

2018 Weekly Bible Reading Plan



Day 232-Ezekiel 8-11
Day 233-Ezekiel 12-15
Day 234-Ezekiel 16-19
Day 235-Ezekiel 20-23
Day 236-Ezekiel 24-27

What major things do you learn from these prophets?



Mark Your Calendar

8/24, Stone anniversary (‘84)
8/26-29, Back-2-Bible School
9/1, Fall Quarter: new budget/NYS officers
9/3, Labor Day Carpet Cleaning!
9/13-15, Camp Hunt Ladies’ Retreat
9/19, Garth and Lilly’s birthdays
9/20-22, Camp Hunt Men’s Retreat
9/25, Oasis begins each Tues. & Thurs.
9/28-30, Albany Youth Rally

Today:8/19

Announcements: John
Opening Prayer: Jim B
Song Leader: Garth
#508 “A Wonderful Savior
#226 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
#318 “O Sacred Head”
Talk/bread prayer: Carl
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Chris
Pass/collection prayer: Jim L
#291 “The Great Physician”
Scripture Reading: Howard - 1 Samuel 30:6
Lesson: Alfred “Where Could I Go”
#907 “Hark the Gentle Voice”
Closing Song: Steven
#1012 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”
Closing Prayer: Tyler
Subs: DK, EB

Next Sunday: 8/26

Announcements: Doug
Opening Prayer: John
Song Leader: Alfred
Talk/bread prayer: Tyler
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Steven
Pass/collection prayer: Howard
Scripture Reading: Jim B - Philippians 2:12-16
Lesson: Doug “With Fear and Trembling”
Closing Song: Garth
Closing Prayer: Jim L

Wash & Wear

- the cleaning and mowing sign-up for this season is on the fridge. Taking a turn is appreciated & needed.
- the church’s blue polo shirts in a variety of sizes are \$15 each (to cover cost only).

Week of August 12

Bible Class	28
Morning Worship	42
Wed. Bible Class	15
Contribution	\$708.00
Weekly Ave. Needed	\$575.00