

Church of Christ

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

February 9, 2020

MIMICKING A VIPER

What looks like a Gaboon viper, sounds like a Gaboon viper, and acts like a Gaboon viper? A Gaboon viper, of course. Also, the Congolese giant toad.

With its two-inch fangs, the Gaboon viper is one of the largest vipers in Africa. The Congolese giant toad can be found only in the same habitat as the Gaboon viper.

With a body that resembles the head of the viper, in that it is the same color and size, the toad can also mimic the sound of the hissing snake. And, when the toad is threatened, it will raise its rear end, making it look similar to the Gaboon viper getting ready to strike (Science News, October 25, 2019).

The toad's ability to appear to be a Gaboon viper is seemingly an effective defense mechanism in a certainly hostile environment. Looking like a serpent is likely vital to the toad's survival. Deception is its defense.

On the other hand, the Christian living in an overall religiously-hostile environment, who attempts to appear similar to nonbelievers around him in an effort to "fit in," puts himself in a spiritually dangerous situation.

The Christian trying to fit in with the world around him might try to sound like a sinner by talking like a sinner.

However, God's Word instructs the Christian to "let no corrupt word" proceed out of his mouth (Ephesians 4:29). Paul instructed the Colossians to let their speech always be gracious (Colossians 4:6).

The Christian trying to fit in with the world around him might try to look like a sinner. Dressing immodestly is strongly taught against in scriptures like 1 Timothy 2:9, in which Paul states that women should dress respectfully and modestly.

The Christian trying to fit in with the world around him might try to act like a sinner. Romans 12:2 states that Christians are not to be conformed to this world. Rather than imitating unbelievers, Christians are called to be imitators of God (Ephesians 5:1).

The Congolese giant toad may sound like a viper, look like a viper, and act like a viper, but it's still a toad.

The Christian who tries to sound like a sinner, look like a sinner, and act like a sinner is, in fact, a sinner (1 Timothy 1:16).

Troy Albers
Graeber Road church of Christ
Rosenberg, TX

PRAY FOR...

Alexander, Reggie: Lynn's friend, heart problems
Behnke, Jason: Cystic Fibrosis, new med
Bennett, Jim: continued recovery
Burna, Jennifer: Carl & Cindy's cousin, cancer
Cech, Matthew and Terry: health concerns
Chambers, Mary: heart concerns
Chambers, William & Michael: health struggles
Crump family: struggles
Conley, Annie May: Mary's sister, kidney disease and memory
Cross, Mark: Tara's cousin-colon cancer
Darling, Wendy: health struggles
Dashnaw, Trisha and Justin: newborn son, David
Doner, John: Christian's grandfather, health
Doolen, Shirley and daughters: stuggling loss of husband/father
Elders: Alfred and Doug
Garrow, Donald: Crumps' cancer
Howard/Nobel family: struggles health struggles
Kashorek, Lori: continued improvement
Lermineau, Kids: Carl and Cindy's relatives, struggles
Loss: Lynn's nephew, son of her brother in Canada
Miller, Jody: struggles
Minister Search: Massena and S. Burlington
Missions: Brazil, Malawi, Ukraine, Zambia
Morrow, Kevin: Krista's uncle-lung cancer
New Walks: Ralph, Rose, Aowen, and Kolton
Pickering, Dustin: severe health struggles in CVPH
St. Pierre family: struggles
Tynon, Leo: Chris' uncle, recovering at home
Vaus, Amy: Amber's cousin, pregnant and has lung cancer
West, Larry: Melinda's friend in CA, health
Whitfield, Freda: Mary Chambers' mother, health

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

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Plattsburgh, Ny 12901
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www.plattsburghchurch.com

shepherds serving under the Good Shepherd:
Alfred Chambers, evangelist, 901-205-8584
Doug Kashorek, preacher, 518-645-1509

Schedule of Services
Sun. Bible Classes 10 A.M.
Sun. Worship 11 A.M.
Wed. Bible Classes 6:30 P.M.

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 ...

2/16 begins Carpet Cleaning Week. There will be times when we'll need many hands to make the work light, such as Sunday after service, Wednesday evening, and Saturday as we'll move lots of things to get at the carpets in the auditorium and classrooms. If you can help to run a vacuum or shampooer on Monday or Thursday mornings that week, it would be appreciated.



We've Got Class!

Join us Next Sunday at 10 a.m. for: Adults: John's class--Gospel of John Youth classes as well. And Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at both N and S locations.

Munchie Moments

Fellowship Meal: Our next monthly meal is 2/23 after morning service.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: our next 1st Sunday breakfast is on on 3/1 at 8 a.m.

New Nursery Rules

Due to the fact that we now have a new baby amongst us, the nursery is now limited to the new baby's family. It has been cleaned for David and we hope to keep it that way for his benefit. Also before David has his first vaccine in late March if you have so much as a runny nose please look at him from afar.

Doug's Devotional

"And the Lord said to Samuel, 'Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them'" 1 Samuel 8:7.

God used Samuel in many ways for His Kingdom, including the difficult transition time between the nation being ruled by judges or saviors and then by kings. Since he had been a boy, Samuel spoke with the Lord and knew how things in Israel ought to go ... or at least he thought so. But God's thoughts and ways are so much greater than ours. With over two decades of ministry accomplished, I can spot bad spiritual ideas like Samuel. "What? Instead of a treasured possession, you want to be like all the other nations around you?" But, the Lord's church is not mine, just as Israel was not Samuel's—although it's easy to feel deeply attached and responsible when ministering to God's people. God of course knew what Samuel was feeling and let him know that he wasn't being rejected. God was already King over His people while the judges were just supposed to guide their hearts back to Him when they went astray. What must you do to reject the earthly kings that rule over you to have God be King instead?

Congratulations!

... to Shameek Malachi Chambers for putting on Christ in baptism last Sunday, 2/2, by a very proud grandfather!

Carpet Cleaning Week

All help is appreciated & needed during these times ...
2/16, move all out of auditorium after service
2/17, 8 a.m. clean auditorium carpet
2/19, 6:30 p.m. move all out off classrooms
2/20, 8 a.m. clean classroom carpets
2/22, 9 a.m. set up classrooms & auditorium

Secret/Prayer Sisters!

Remember to pray for and give encouraging notes or items to you new Secret Sister. The table along the wall by the office is the Communication Center for the sisters.

Sundae Toppings

Today: NO Ladies' Time
2/16, 12:30 p.m. Family Meeting (info only); help moving all out of the auditorium!
2/23, 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Meal
3/1, 8 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast



Mission Moment

•Please pray for all our mission works.

2020 WVBS Interactive Bible Reading Plan



SOTW: Acts
2/9: Acts 1-2; Psalm 40
2/10: Acts 3-4; Psalm 41
2/11: Acts 5-7; Psalm 42
2/12: Acts 8-9; Psalm 43
2/13: Acts 10-11; Psalm 44
2/14: Acts 12-13; Psalm 45
2/15: Acts 14-16; Psalm 50
SUPP: What Must I Do To Be Saved; The Truth about Repentance ... Baptism website: video.wvbs.org
Other Resources theabidingword.com



Mark Your Calendar

2/9, Joy's birthday
2/10, Howard's birthday
2/14, Valentine's Day; Doug & Lori's birthdays in Christ ('93)
2/18, Chris' birthday
2/16-22, carpet cleaning week
2/20, Jody's birthday in Christ ('09)
2/24, Sammy's birthday

Oasis

Just as a reminder, if you're not vetted to serve as a volunteer for The Oasis Project, please stay away from the church on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday afternoons from 3-5 p.m. for confidentiality reasons.

Today: 2/9

Announcements: Carl
Opening Prayer: Jim B
Song Leader: Ed
#300 "Praise Him! Praise Him!"
#315 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
#344 "Low in the Grave He Lay"
Talk/bread prayer: Alfred
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: John
Pass/collection prayer: Howard
Passer: Justin
#350 "When My Love to Christ Grows Weak"
Scripture Reading: Tyler - 1 Samuel 8:4-7
Lesson: Doug "They Have Rejected Me"
#381 "Years I Spent in Vanity"
Closing Song: Jim L
#523 "I Know the Lord Will Find a Way for Me"
Closing Prayer: Chris
Sub: GH, DK

Next Sunday 2/16

Announcements: Chris
Opening Prayer: John
Song Leader: Garth
Talk/bread prayer: Howard
Pass/fruit of the vine prayer: Alfred
Pass/collection prayer: Carl
Passer: Doug
Scripture Reading: Jim B - 1 John 4:7-12
Lesson: Doug "Let Us Love One Another"
Closing Song: Ed
Closing Prayer: Tyler

Wash & Wear

- the cleaning 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).

February 2, 2020

Bible Class	27
Morning Worship	40
Wed. N. Bible Class	12
Wed. S Bible Class	5
Contribution	\$1053.75
Weekly Ave. Needed	\$700.00