

Good News From Chardon Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave., Chardon, Oh 44024
December 15, 2024 Issue 50

Schedule of Services

Greeting: Tom

Song Leader: Myron

Opening Hymn:

654—Abide With Me

Opening Prayer: Dale

Hymn:

450—Alone At Eve

Scripture Reading: Ryan

Matthew 18:21-27

Hymn:

293—Night, With Ebon Pinion

Lord's Supper: Robert

Hymn:

26—In The Garden

Sermon: Tom

Invitation Hymn:

636—Only A Step

Closing Hymn:

274A—Jesus Loves Me

Closing Prayer: Larry

♪ I know not why God's wondrous grace
To me He hath made known,
Nor why unworthy Christ in love
Redeemed me for His own.
I know not when my Lord may come,
at night or noon day fair,
Nor will I walk the vale with Him,
But "meet Him in the air".
But "I know whom I have believed,
and am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day." ♪

CALENDAR

Dec 15—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Tom

Dec 22—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Jerad

Dec 29—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Jerad

Dec 29—(b) Caleb

Dec 31—(b) Randy

Jan 2—(b) Carl

The Need for Compassion

Let's talk about the Case for Compassion. In doing so, I want us to consider an important question. In what ways have you, individually, or have we, collectively, shown compassion recently? Our first response would probably be – What do you mean by compassion? What is Compassion?

The Random House Unabridged Dictionary defines compassion as "a feeling of deep sympathy and sorrow for another who is stricken by misfortune, accompanied by a strong desire to alleviate the suffering." Compassion rises above how we feel about the situation of another, to what we do about their situation. In this sense it is much like love which entails doing whatever is in the best interest of the one to whom our love is shown.

How much sympathy or sorrow do we really feel for the misfortune of others? And a more important question—Do we really have a strong desire to alleviate their suffering? If you are anything like me, you will probably have to admit that your compassion level isn't always what it needs to be. In fact, if I'm not careful, then my first response to the needs of others can often be rather cold – "Well, they did it to themselves." Or, "It's not my problem." "They should have been more careful or responsible."

Again, if you notice the definition, it doesn't say anything about "the strong desire to alleviate the suffering of another" so long as they deserve it. Compassion is to be shown to all, regardless of whether they show any to us. Because Our God is a God of Compassion and He desires that we be as well. The Bible presents us with the picture of a God who is full of compassion and thus over and over calls upon us to be people of compassion—Ex.34:6, Deut.15:11.

So, wouldn't you agree that caring for the tangible needs of human beings is part-and-parcel of genuine Christianity? When action-oriented compassion is absent, then it's a tell-tale sign that something is spiritually amiss. Uncaring and uncompassionate Christianity does not attract seekers into its fold. But a clear and consistent demonstration of Christ-like love is a powerful magnet that pulls people toward God. ACT Program—Partners for Africa.

Jesus illustrated the importance of compassion in one of His most famous stories—The Parable of the Good Samaritan. The story is found in Luke 10 and is so familiar to many of us. It's a story about a Jewish man who was walking from Jerusalem toward the city of Jericho. As he traveled along, some hoodlums and thugs robbed him and beat him up, leaving him half-dead in a ditch on the side of the road.

(continued on back)

PRAYER LIST

Mynda as she travels. **Caleb's** back surgery recovery
Tom & Nina health issues, **Nina's** back pain,
Their son-in-law **Chris** lost his job
Mark and **Debbie** as they travel.
Mark's brother **Dale's** health
Tom's Bible Study with **Roberta, Channing,** and **Kris.**
Bonnie's health, grandsons **Devin, Dakota, Mick, Dillon,**
Connor & Keegan. Daughters **Ronda** and **Renee**
Friend, **Liz** with serious troubles
Wanda's migraines; son **Allen,** sisters **Lorraine, Joyce**
knee surgery, **niece Nikki** in bad accident, **niece**
Lorrie heart attack. **Allen's friend** with brain bleed.
Mary, Carl and family. Keatha, Mary's sister-in-law.
Mary's brother **David** with health issue, Friend
Amber with the loss of her baby
Jim and Beverly G. with health issues
Wayne and Diane G. with health issues
Kathy's health, friends **Fran** with cancer. Her neighbor's faith
Linda's eye surgery recovery, health and back pain,
Tiffany & family. Christian with epilepsy.
Zarna and her family
Juanita, is at Briar Hill assisted living rm.100, and her family.
Ray and **Barbara** and their family. **Ray** fell on the ice and
broke his femur leg bone. He is at a rehab center.
Dale's health issues, headaches, His family. His **Mothers**
medical procedure & diagnosis. 7 year old girl,
Lucie, with Leukemia. Cousins, **Randal** physical &
mental health, **James** in serious truck accident,
Jalen's mental health. Uncles **Earl** with cancer,
Jimmy who fell, **Aunt Rose** health
Brother in Christ **Johnston** surgery for the 19th
Uncle **Jimmy** stroke.
Ray's health and his family. **Rebecca's** illness and
recovery . **Steven, and Asher**
Pat recovering from a fall, and her family
Robert & Sara their Sister **Tanya's** pain, Son **Michael** and
Daughter **Maddie,** Friend **Hailey** serious health
issues after birthing
Brenda's health, her sister **Linda** with brain cancer,
sister-in-law **Linda** with breast cancer, son **Mark**
surgery recovery, granddaughter **Amanda.**
Larry & family.
Mike & Debra Their friend **Carl** with cancer.

Matthew 18:21-27 ²¹ Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? ²² Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. ²³ Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. ²⁴ And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵ But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶ The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. ²⁷ Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

(continued from front)

A short time later a Jewish priest came walking along, but when he saw the man, he moved to the other side of the road and passed by without slowing down. A little while later, another religious man, a Levite, came along. He too quickly passed by on the other side. Finally, along came a man from Samaria, and even though there was a lot of ethnic strife between the Samaritans and the Jews, this Samaritan felt compassion for the robbery victim and stopped to see how he could help.

After assessing the situation, the Samaritan knelt down over the man, cleaned and bandaged his wounds, lifted the man onto his donkey and took him to an inn. The Samaritan gave the innkeeper some money to take care of the man, and said that if the care of the man ends up costing even more, he would pay the additional expenses when he came back through. In conclusion Jesus asked this question, "which of these three do you think was a neighbor to him who fell among the thieves" (Lk.10:36). To which the lawyer he told the parable to responded, "He who showed mercy or compassion on him" (Lk.10:37).

May the same be said of us.

Brian Mitchell serves as a minister with the Jackson Church of Christ in Jackson, MO

WHERE IS IT WRITTEN?

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Answer: Matthew 18:20

SUNDAY: Bible Study—10:00 am, Worship—11:00 am
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