

# Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

*Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry*

August 8, 2021

*Scripture Reading: Romans 15:5, 6*

## **Return to the Lord** *by Duane Patton*

One of the truly great benefits of being a Christian is the opportunity the Savior gives to each of His disciples to change from failure to success. Those who have never accepted God's grace by faith have the chance to turn away from a lifestyle characterized by sin, but God's children also have that same chance, continually!

Notice that Scripture charges *all* accountable humans as being culpable before God; and, likewise, all have the ability to be saved from sin by God's constant kindness. A couple passages of Scripture help us to understand this truth. Paul made this point clear when he wrote, "God has committed...all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all" (**Romans 11:32**, NKJV), and again, "...there is no partiality with God" (**2:11**). Peter taught this very thing as it was being applied to the Gentiles. Luke recorded Peter as having said "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him." (**Acts 10:34, 35**).

Scriptures demonstrate time and again how God's people, although saved from behaviors that once separated them from God and eternal life, sometimes fall back into sin. It may be once or many times. In some cases, the biblical text relates that there have been those among the church who turned completely away from the Lord. Yet, the Scriptures also teach that among those who sin, returning to the Lord by faith is not only possible but promising with regard to forgiveness and restoration of the relationship Christ died to secure. As Peter announced to the Jews who lived prior to and after the cross: "...repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord (**Acts 3:19**, NAS). As the prophet Jeremiah cried to Judah of old, "Let's examine and search out our ways, And let's return to the LORD" (**Lam. 3:40**; cf. **Isa. 55:7**).

## Seeking first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness...

### Schedule of Services:

#### **Sunday**

9:00 AM Bible Class  
10:00 AM Worship  
6:00 PM Worship

#### **Wednesday:**

6:00 PM  
Prayer, Bible Study, Devotional

### Local Works of Faith:

Sunnybrook Children's Home  
Gulf Coast Bible Camp  
Local Food Pantry  
Annual Youth Events  
Back-Pack Buddies  
The Gospel of Christ TV (Fox 25)  
Every Sunday at 6:30 AM

### Foreign Missions:

Guyana, South America  
India

### Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:

*Vancleave Church of Christ Digital Ministries*

### Local Wi-Fi Network Access:

SSID: 2Wire029  
Key: 399572302  
E-mail: vco\_christ@att.net

# Prayer Requests and Announcements

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open into their cry. ~ Psalms 34:15

## Recent Requests:

**Jason Rau** passed away last week from Covid-19. Prayers are welcomed for the family.

**Mike Kenney** is scheduled for surgery 12 August. He has recently shown some improvement.

**Chip Quave** has been getting better day to day although he suffers some with respiratory issues.

**Carla Clayton's brother** has returned to the Lord – let's be prayerful and supportive of his repentance!

**Nic Wages** has been suffering from back pain recently. Prayers are very welcomed at this time.

**Frank Sentelle** is doing much better and appreciates our prayers on his behalf!

**Norris Flasch** was released from the hospital to stay with his brother. He needs our prayers.

**School is back in session:** let's be mindful about and prayerful for students, parents, teachers and staff.

**Others:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Continue to remember these:

Norris Flasch

Rick Bedwell

Grant Lavoto

Judy Hinton

Mike Kenney

Jerry Moore

Dino Vecchio

Jerry and Virginia Mobley

Earl and Linda Kenney

If you have any updates / corrections on any prayer requests or other announcements, please share them by sending an email to [vco\\_christ@att.net](mailto:vco_christ@att.net) or simply text or leave a voice message at **601-436-0868**.

**WEEKLY WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT: God's family is a family that loves and lives forever.**

"...And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."

(1 John 2:17 NKJV)

## Daily Bible Reading Plan for 2021

### Week 32

MONDAY	Jeremiah 1-3	In Scripture, why do you think idolatry and adultery are often compared?
TUESDAY	Jeremiah 4-6	In 8:6, how is it that God is so angry while people are so out of touch?
WEDNESDAY	Jeremiah 7-9	Why do you think "graven images" were so appealing in ancient times?
THURSDAY	Jeremiah 10-13	How might "peer" pressure have affected God's people at this time in history?
FRIDAY	Jeremiah 14-17	No one listen to Jeremiah's prophecy. Why do you think this is the case?
SATURDAY	Jeremiah 18-22	Why do people who are blessed by God sometimes suffer so deeply?
SUNDAY	Jeremiah 23-25	Why did the people find it so easy to listen to the false prophets, and what were the false prophets telling the people?

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Psalms 119:105