

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Ah yes, with August coming to a close and as we begin to prepare to move into the month of September, it is time to start thinking about the six walleyes which will be identified as my **“WINTER FISH”**.

Now, these **“WINTER FISH”** have nothing to do with an ice house or fishing through a hole in the ice. These six walleyes are the ones that will be frozen and placed in the freezer for a once a month delicious meal of walleye during the winter months.

Indeed, winter walleye fishing is something I just don't get even though when growing up dad took us often. Why would someone want to sit around looking at a bobber waiting, and waiting, and waiting, for a walleye to possibly swim by either in an ice house or not.

However, walleye meals are delicious thus the need to collect a limit of **“WINTER FISH”** prior to hanging up the fishing rods for the summer season. Now, in order for a limit of walleyes to last through the winter they must be frozen, kept in the freezer and savored sparingly. Thus, the once a month concept helps with the savoring sparingly.

Ah, here is something even more delicious than a walleye dinner _____.

What do you suppose that might be? Fill in the blank with an answer _____.

Well, I would like to suggest that this something more delicious than a walleye dinner, from the stash of **“WINTER FISH”** in the freezer is the awesome wonder of **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE** for us as children in the Family of God!!!

Thanks be to **GOD!!!** The wonder of **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE** for us as children in the Family of God is **NOT** something we are limited to savoring sparingly!!!

Actually, **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE** for us as children in the Family of God could be described as **OVERFLOWING!!!** Indeed, just think about **GOD'S** gracious gift of **JESUS** and the wonder of the **CROSS** enabling forgiveness and renewal of relationships with God over and over again!!! Yes, the **CROSS** and **JESUS** truly do highlight the **OVERFLOWING** nature of **GOD'S LOVE** for us as children in the Family of God!!!

The beautiful thing about **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE** for us as children in the Family of God is that we are **NOT** tied to a **LIMIT** which we must savor sparingly once a month, nor even merely once a week on Sundays, but **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE** for us has been made available to us more than even every day Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE** for us as children in the Family of God has been made available to us through **JESUS** and the **HOLY SPIRIT** moment by precious moment, “day in and day out”!!!

Yes, everyday of our lives and every moment of our lives is an opportunity to open our hearts, minds, and spirits, to the awesome wonder of **GOD'S** gracious **LOVE** for us as children in the Family of God, through our prayer lives, through our time of reflection in God's Holy Word, and through our fellowshiping with each other as brothers and sisters in the Family of God all wrapped in our weekly Sunday celebration in **WORSHIP** unto **GOD** we can experience the **OVERFLOWING** and far from sparing wonder of **GOD'S LOVE** for us as children in the family of God!!!

Love in Christ,

Pastor Dana