

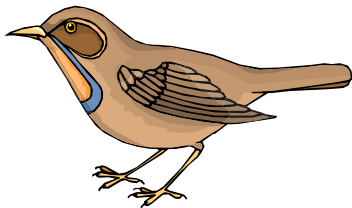
Lighthouse of Iowa

September 2009

And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find anything thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet.—Mark 11:13



I was raking leaves one late September day when a small brown-backed bird with a spotted chest flitted out of the woods and just as swiftly darted back. A wood thrush. Not much to look at with his drab coloring. His glory is in his song. On spring evenings he's a liquid voice from the forest edge, a flute song at twilight.



Not a sound did this one utter, of course—wrong time of year. Still I gazed longingly into the trees where he had vanished, hoping in vain for

some reprise of his rhapsody of four months ago, some thrush-style September song.

What melody that small bird was endowed with, I thought—and how parsimonious he was with his great gift, spending it on his narrow concerns of territory and mating, locked into his cycle of seasonal behavior.

Do we humans, too, have neglected gifts, I wondered, channeled by habit into narrow repetitive paths, clutched selfishly to our own small uses? Is God even now looking longingly at His most gifted creation, telling us: "You could sing, if you would!"

Father, I want to spend myself for Your kingdom, in season, out of season.

Elizabeth Sherrill

Hypocritical Singing

The singing of a hymn should be a great experience for us—it can be a prayer, a testimony, a praise, an invitation to others.

Some interesting comparisons have been written on the hymns we sing.

We sing "Sweet Hour of Prayer," and content ourselves

with ten or fifteen minutes a day (if that much).

We sing "Onward Christian Soldiers," and wait to be drafted into His service.

We sing "O for a Thousand Tongues," and don't rightly use the one we have.

We sing "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," and let the least little offense sever it.

We sing "Serve the Lord with Gladness," and gripe about all we have to do.

We sing "I Love to Tell the Story," and never mention it all year outside of church.

We sing "Cast Thy Burden on the Lord," and worry ourselves into nervous breakdowns.

We sing "The Whole Wide World for Jesus," and never invite our next door neighbors to church.

We sing "Throw Out the Life Line," and content ourselves with throwing out a fishing line.

Contributed by Teresa Bown

Chariton

Meeting times—Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m.

Location—15th & Roland, Chariton, Iowa

For information call—Clarence Van Egdome, (641)932-5686 or Albert Schreck, (641)535-2381

Norm Riekens is recovering from knee surgery and has been able to attend services a few times.

Norm and Mary Jo Riekens' granddaughter, Emily (Dennis), and her husband, Joe, had a baby girl, Maya, on August 30th. Maya is 17 weeks premature, weighing 1 pound, 9 ounces, and is in critical condition. The family would appreciate prayers.

Clarence and Deloris Van Egdome enjoyed seeing their

granddaughter, Jodee Jones, while she was back for a few days to visit. She and her husband, Nick, are in the Coast Guard and are stationed in Morgan City, Louisiana.



We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, visits, phone calls and food since Norm's knee surgery.


Norm & Mary Jo Riekens



September Birthdays

29 – Carol Smead 

September Anniversaries


6 – Brian & Tammy Schreck

Dean Avenue

Meeting times—Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

Location—2907 Dean Ave., Des Moines, Iowa

For information call—John McNeece, (515)263-9428 or Don Warren, (515)967-5650

Several of us have been traveling this summer. The Dobberke family took a week long vacation.

Yvonne Coe and Karla Fetters spent two weeks touring the islands of Hawaii and found a nice church for worship times.

Peter and Frances Hawthorne spent some time with family at the Watson Family Reunion in Eolia, Missouri.

Shawn Head came home for the State Fair.

Dave, Marla and Kara Fetters were in the Kansas City, Missouri area with Alissa Garbi for a wedding, and Alissa returned home with them.

John and Donna McNeece were able to get away for a few days to Missouri and saw some family. Bill and Shirley McNeece spent a few days at Red Rock Lake to celebrate their wedding anniversary.

Elsie LeMar spent some time in Iowa Lutheran Hospital and is now in Valley View Village Rehab Center for a time.

Donna Meek has had two spells this month of a stone in the saliva gland in her left jaw. It will swell up very large in an hour. She must suck on lemon drops to dissolve the stone. It takes about 8 to 10 hours to draw the stone out and is very painful.

Grace Wilkins is developing more sores on her legs. Please pray for Elsie, Donna and Grace. They are all in need of your prayers.

Jean Van Egdome was laid low for several days with strep throat. She missed a couple days of work.

Aaron Aswegan was taken suddenly by ambulance to the hospital on Sunday, August 30th. There is still no news on what his condition is. Aaron is the son-in-law of Ron and Karma Sharp. Please pray for Aaron.

Greg, Linda and Shawn Head hosted the congregation

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Dean Avenue

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for an "Ice Cream Social" on Saturday, August 8th. Everyone enjoyed good ice cream and treats and good fellowship.

Elsie LeMar is proud to announce the new addition in her family. Her grandson, Chris LeMar, has presented her

with a new great-grandson, Christopher. Congratulations, Elsie!

Our visitor on Sunday, August 16th was Mildred Williams from Madrid, who was here for the State Fair.

Worshiping with us on August 23rd were Mike

Warren and Mildred Williams.

Courtney Penick; David and Katie Betsworth; and Bill and Shirley McNeece's grandchildren, Connor and Reese, were our visitors on Sunday, August 30th.

September Birthdays

7 – Elsie LeMar
21 – Juanita Coe



September Anniversaries

2 – Greg & Linda Head
4 – Chad & Amy Prenosil



Pumpkin Promenade



We want to invite everyone to our 10th Annual Pumpkin Promenade on Saturday, October 3rd at 5:30 p.m. Same location as previous years. Bonfire, Weiner Roast, Hayride, Pumpkin Carving Contest. Please bring a dessert and lawn chair. Call Linda Head with questions - 265-8071.

Fairview

Meeting time—Sundays: 10:00 a.m.

Location—22nd & Orange St., Clarinda, Iowa

For information call—Richard Negley, (712)542-3728 or Marvin Negley, (712)542-2972

Our visitors on August 2nd were: Ben and Katie Carter and daughter, Grace, of Burlington, Iowa. They were visiting Jack and Bobbi Swisher.

In early August, Marvin and Jean Negley were headed East for a trip and were delayed in Burlington, Iowa, as Marvin had an attack of kidney stones. He was hospitalized overnight and they then continued with their plans, checking with doctors on their return trip.

John Lee of Greenwood,

Missouri spent August 14, 15, and 16 with us. His lessons on Heaven, Contentment, and Taking Inventory, (Job 31), were all very interesting. A pizza supper was held prior to services on Friday evening, and a potluck dinner on Sunday.


Visitors at church that Sunday were: Paul and Dasha Negley and infant daughter, Timber, of Urbandale, Iowa; Dasha's parents from Czechoslovakia; John Negley and daughter

Madelyn of Riverside, Iowa; Shari Cowger of Twin Falls, Idaho; and a couple from Japan, who were guests of Marvin and Jean Negley.

Cliff and Bobbi Duckstein of the Vandalia congregation worshiped with us August 23rd.

September Birthdays

22 – Amy Mays
24 – Tammie Driftmier
28 – Amy Schmidt



Martensdale

Meeting Times—Sundays: 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m.

Location—439 Hwy. 92 (1.5 miles east of Martensdale, Iowa)

For information call—Duane Proudfit, (515)961-4470 or Mike Penick, (515)989-4165

Fred and Marlene Bown took a ten-day vacation to Colorado and met with the Jay Street congregation in Denver while they were there.

Dave and Christy Henderson and Cassidy and Bethany Phillips attended the Baxter family reunion on August 1st in Blue Springs, Missouri, and then stayed for a portion of the two-week study at Murray Road in Lee's Summit. Duane and Mary Proudfit and Dick and Phyllis Bown also attended the reunion.

Teresa, Kyle, and Jordan Bown, and Duane and Mary Proudfit all attended part or all of the two-week study.

The young men from the Iowa Teen Bible Study conducted our service for us on Sunday, August 9th. Randy and Laura Teghtmeyer also attended services that morning on their way to Wisconsin and Randy gave our morning lesson.

We had a full house for our

services and potluck on Sunday, August 16th. Tom, LuAnn, and Verity Woody were visiting Al and Marlene Bown. Tom spoke for both morning and afternoon services. Adam and Tara Clevenger from the Smart Road congregation were in the area visiting. Drew Teghtmeyer and Randy and Laura Teghtmeyer worshiped with us again on their way back from Wisconsin.

Kermit Toms and his daughter, Cameron, have worshiped with us several times this month. They are from Indiana and are in the process of moving to Iowa.

Steve and Cerine Proudfit and their girls were up visiting Duane and Mary Proudfit.

Courtney Penick had a stomach virus and had to be hospitalized for a short time. She is doing better and has started her classes at ISU.

Jenna Wheeler has started classes at Simpson, and Zach Wheeler has

recently accepted a full time position at Best Buy.

Pam Deckler's grandchildren attended services while they were staying with Pam. Maddy Hermon attended services with Cassidy Phillips, and Savannah Husted attended services with Jordan Bown. Marvin and Ellen Ellwanger from Winterset and Marta Weeks from St. Mary's have also attended services this month.

September Birthdays

5 – Pam Deckler

9 – Brenda Bown

28 – Dick Bown



September

Anniversaries



24 – Mike & Tracy Penick

Pleasant Hill

Meeting Times—Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

Location—5091 E. University, Pleasant Hill, Iowa

For information call—Bob Flack, (515)262-7329 or Lowell Hermon, (515)989-0727

Tim and Ann Casey have been in the Sioux City area. Tim has been trying to get his father's estate settled. Ann has had strep throat, and also discovered she had a tooth that needed to have some work done.

She had a root canal and is feeling much better.

Jamie Ingle's parents were up for the wedding reception.

Cheree Stump attended the two-week study in the Kansas

City area. Marc, Ginger, Maddy and Shea were also in the Kansas City area. Maddy stayed for a week of the meeting.

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Pleasant Hill

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Miles Wood was in Missouri for a weekend and then he went to Oregon with his father.

Paul Zinnel had shoulder surgery on August 5th. He is doing better.

Carroll Warren fell, but he had no broken bones. He was stiff and sore. Nora Lee Ingle fell also. She had no broken bones, but she did hurt her arm. She is doing well now. She had an infection in her leg and had to keep it elevated.

Travis Head has attended for a couple of Sundays.

Marc Hermon and family, Sharon Stevens and family, Rodney and Alena Ingle, and Ryan Zinnel were at Martensdale for services.

Chip, Jennifer, Lily and Annie Albright were in the Kansas City area on vacation and attending weddings.

The Maddens from Ottawa, Kansas were visiting.

Nicholas Felice has been sick.

Mark and Cindy Morris were up visiting with family. Jeremy Morris was in Ames on business.

Ryan, Jamie and Elijah Ingle have visited at Vandalia.

Tim and Jamie Harvey have a daughter, Taylor Eileen, born on Monday, August 24th. Taylor weighed 6 pounds, 10½ ounces and was 18½ inches long. Grandparents are Bruce and Suzanne Harvey, and great-grandma is Nora Lee Ingle. Taylor has two older sisters, Grace and Emily, to welcome her home.

Shea Hermon has pneumonia. He is doing better.

Shirley Warner's mom had a deep eye ulcer, which has to heal before she can have surgery.

We honored Josh Brady with a going away party. He will be leaving Sunday, September 6th to go overseas. Please keep his family in your prayers. He will be in Iraq for three to six months.

Nels and Marje Turnquist spent a week in Branson. Then they spent some time visiting with her sisters in the St. Louis area.

The Jarrod Ingle family from California visited with his grandma Ingle.

The Ingle families attended the wedding of Joel Morris to Aubrey St. John in Excelsior Springs, Missouri.

Iowa Teen Study (ITBS)

The September study will be
Sept. 12 at

Bob & Marge Flack's

Oct. 3 study: Nora Lee Ingle

Nov. 7 study: Randy & Teresa Ingle

Please check with hostess to see if she would like you to bring any food.

If you have any questions, call Rodney Ingle at 515-669-0365.

September Birthdays

2 – Pam Sorenson

6 – Keith Price

13 – Niko Felice

23 – Shea Hermon

28 – Theresa Ingle



September Anniversaries



1 – Tim & Tammy Brady

4 – Marc & Ginger Hermon

10 – Larry & Bev Brady

11 – Mike & Karole Turner

12 – Mike & Cindy Brady

15 – Marty & Lisa Williamson

29 – Ron & Mary Gearhart

29 – Steve & Pat Thompson

PERSONAL TRANSLATION

I am my neighbor's Bible:

He reads me when we meet,

Today he reads me in my house,

Tomorrow in the street;

He may be a relative or friend,

Or slight acquaintance be;

He may not even know my name,

Yet he is reading me.

Vandalia

Meeting Times—Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m.
 Location—2.5 miles east of Runnells, Iowa on F70, then 1 mile north on 131st St.
 For information call—Greg Ingle, (515)994-2824 or Charles Ingle, (515)966-2537

Marvin and Melda Ingle and Lisa Fiorentin attended the funeral services for Wanda Riggins, wife of Richard Riggins, in Warrensburg, Missouri.

Justin and Brittney Dowdy and Lynnette Dowdy were in Missouri on August 9th. Our visitors that day were Sam Peters and Kelsey Knight.

Marvin and Melda Ingle and Doug and Lisa Fiorentin attended the visitation for Marie Long in Gallatin, Missouri.

Our visitors on the 16th of August were Ryan and Jamie Ingle and Elijah, Jason and Staci Miller, Kelsey Knight, Kylie Smith, and Jalen Krier. That evening we were pleased to witness the baptism of Sam Peters. On August 22nd, Brittney Dowdy was re-baptized.

Lynnette Dowdy attended a wedding at the Prince Road congregation in Illinois.

Tim Burkman was in Lancaster, Missouri visiting his uncle Donald and aunt Irene

over the weekend of August 30th. Our visitors were James Finney, Bret and Lori Cole of Monroe, and Ashley and Trinity Baylor of Colfax.

Justin and Brittney Dowdy were in Indianapolis for a weekend.

Ryan and Jamie Ingle and Elijah visited Sunday evening, August 30th.

Ruth Schell entered several items in Fabrics and Threads at the Iowa State Fair. She received one blue ribbon and three red ribbons.

September Birthdays

- 2 – Casady Cummings
- 4 – Rob Guthrie
- 5 – Bob Patterson
- 8 – Charity Ingle
- 12 – Cameron Burkman
- 14 – Lisa Fiorentin
- 18 – Miriam Ross



September Anniversaries



- 20 – Bob & Tonya Guthrie
- 24 – Dale & Dorothy Van Maanen

God's Children



Although God loves the whole wide world
 And blesses every part,
 I think He has a special place,
 For children in His heart.
 I think He cherishes their smiles,
 Their eagerness and mirth,
 And their appreciation of
 The wonders of His earth.
 I think He listens closely to
 Whatever words they say;
 I think He follows them to school
 And watches them at play.
 And when they go to bed at night,
 He probably is there,
 To see that they have happy dreams
 Beneath their tousled hair.
 All children in a special way
 Belong to God above,
 And I am sure He favors them
 With everlasting love.

James J. Metcalfe

Lighthouse of Iowa is a monthly bulletin for Churches of Christ in Iowa and members' families and friends throughout the country. News is submitted by representatives from each congregation, but you may send general questions, address changes, or news to Ruth Schell at 6645 S.E. 120th St. Runnells, IA 50237, (515)966-2027. Email: RuthLSchell@aol.com