

Lighthouse of Iowa

February 2012

He that giveth, let him do it with simplicity..Romans 12:8

I recently read an unforgettable story about Abraham Lincoln. It seems that there was an elderly woman who made an appointment to see the President. I can well imagine that took courage. When she entered the President's office, he rose and asked her to have a seat and then asked, as he did routinely of all people who came to see him, "Madam, how may I be of service to you?"



The shy woman said quietly, "Mr. President, you must be such a busy man, I didn't come to ask anything of you. I heard that you liked this special kind of cookies...and I just came to bring you some that I baked especially for you."

Silence followed, and tears overflowed in Mr. Lincoln's eyes. It was awhile before he could speak. But eventually he answered. "Madam, I thank you for your thoughtful gift. I am so very moved by it. During all of my Presidency, people have come to my office asking for favors and even demanding them from me. But you are the very first person who has ever come to my office asking nothing, expecting nothing, but rather bringing me a gift. I thank you from the bottom of my heart."

I have never been able to forget that story. I am quick to complain when a public official does something I disapprove of. I've also asked special favors of people in elected office. But never have I simply taken a gift of gratitude to anyone I know who is in public office.

But I plan to. Perhaps you know of someone personally or just by reputation, a public servant to whom you could take something. Maybe even something as simple as a hand written note or a phone call expressing your gratitude could make someone's day.

Father, teach me to give spontaneously to someone who expects nothing from me.

--MARION BOND WEST



Around the Corner

Around the corner I have a friend,
In this great city that has no end;
Yet days go by, and weeks rush on,
And before I know it a year is gone,
And I never see my old friend's face,
For life is a swift and terrible race.
He knows I like him just as well
As in the days I rang his bell
And he rang mine.
We were younger then,
And now we are busy, tired men:
Tired with playing a foolish game,
Tired with trying to make a name.
"Tomorrow," I say, "I will call on Jim,
Just to show that I'm thinking of him."
But tomorrow comes—and tomorrow goes,
And the distance between us grows and grows.
Around the corner!—yet miles away....
"Here's a telegram, sir...."

"Jim died today."

And that's what we get, and deserve in the end:

Around the corner, a vanished friend.

CHARLES HANSON TOWNE

Chariton


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

Location—15th & Roland, Chariton, Iowa

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

NOTE: We will not have Wednesday evening services during the months of February

and March. Also, our Sunday evening services will be from 6:00 to 7:30.

<p>February Birthdays 25 – John Wayne Smead </p>

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

Peter and Frances Hawthorne returned safely from Arizona, but shortly after their return, Peter had a severe stroke. He is making improvements slowly. He has been released from ICU and moved to Younkers Rehab, Room #404, where he is receiving occupational and physical therapy. This leaves him quite tired, so they have requested that visitors come in the evening and stay only for short periods, as Peter cannot yet communicate. Frances is encouraged with his progress and feels that the prayers of the saints have been their greatest therapy. Their daughter, Valerie Hawthorne, was here on January 29th, and will be returning in a week. Remember this dear brother – as he has often said – “prayer is the best medicine!”

Madison Dunn, 8-year-old granddaughter of Shirley and Bill McNeece, fell from a tree and a small stick penetrated her leg. The stick and other debris were removed in the ER, but she continued to have pain, and it was discovered that some

of the stick was still in the leg and it also was infected. Shirley has gone to Texas to be with them.

Ercell Fetters (stepmother of David Fetters) has leukemia, which has been in remission for several years. It has now made a recurrence and Ercell began chemotherapy the end of January. Please pray for both Ercell and Keith. They are now in Texas living close to Ercell’s family.

Others who have been ill include Ron and Karma Sharp, Linda and Greg Head, Janice Sellers, Jeannie Van Egdorn, and Lillian Bartlett. Peg Warren slipped on some ice and injured her leg and left hand. Her leg improved quickly, but her hand has given her a great deal of pain. Ice packs are being employed to control the swelling. X-rays showed no broken bones, but a serious bruise.


Brady Coe, grandson of Yvonne Coe, is back in Iowa City being prepared for further treatment regarding his heart. A heart catheterization will be performed to help him while he

waits for a heart transplant. Please include this young man in your prayers.

Pam Conn, who lives close to the church building, has been attending services with us and we have really enjoyed getting to know this nice woman. Her son, Kenny, was with her Sunday the 29th. Pam has some very serious health problems and prayers would be appreciated on her behalf.

Barry Brownsberger of the Nixa congregation met with us Wednesday night (25th). He was in Des Moines for business.

Shawn Head has been named Iowa State Fair Superintendent of the Museum and Official Iowa State Fair Historian. Shawn has volunteered with the State Fair for several years. Shawn is such a talented young man and we are so happy for him regarding this honor.

<p>February Birthdays</p> <p>5 – Earl Allen 8 – John McNeece 16 – Bill McNeece 25 – Frances Hawthorne</p>	
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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

January has been filled with ups and downs for our group.

We are thankful that Wes Crum is feeling better and that Megan Steeve (granddaughter of Neil and Becky McCoy) got a good report following her surgery. Neil shared that his brother Nile is also recovering from a fall and is gaining ground slowly.

Our sister, Jewell Warner, passed away on January 11th. We will miss her smiling face,

calming presence, and delicious contributions to our basket dinners; but we are so thankful to have had her in our lives for this long.

We are glad that Connie Miller is recovering (slowly) from her shoulder surgery and look forward to when she feels well enough to join us again.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Mary Lou Madden and Elsie Negley as they struggle with health

issues. Both ladies are such wonderful Christian examples to all of us.

Jack and Bobbie Swisher are enjoying a healthy, warm winter in southern Florida and send greetings to all.

Visitors this month included Mary Swisher Smith, Carlita and Maddie McCoy.

February Anniversaries

14 – Marvin & Jean Negley



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

On Saturday, January 7th, several of us met at the Pleasant Hill building to witness Kyle Bown accept Jesus as his Savior and be baptized into Christ by his grandfather, Bob Flack. Kyle is the son of Allen and Teresa Bown and the grandson of Fred and Marlene Bown and Bob and Marge Flack.

Several of us rang in the New Year at the home of Dave and Christy Henderson. With New Year's Day falling on Sunday we also enjoyed several visitors at our morning worship service. They were Ryan Zinnel, Nicholas and Maddy Hermon from the Pleasant Hill congregation; Brian, Tammy, Chantelle, Ashley, and Ethan Schreck from Chariton; Steve,

Cerine, Isabelle, Emelia, and Maylee Proudfit and Dennis, Cindy, Joshua, David, and Daniel Stanley from Murray Road; Shelby Northrup from Gregory; and Kyle, Stephanie, and Ada Stephens and Tanner George from the Smart Road congregation.

Pam Deckler's cousin Kathy spent a couple of weeks with her and worshiped with us several times.

Cassidy and Bethany Phillips and Kyle and Jordan Bown attended the Youth Rally hosted by the Gregory Boulevard congregation the last week of December.

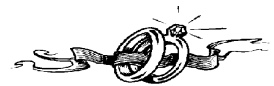
Dawn Bown from Lee's Summit, Missouri, attended services Sunday, January 8th while she was in the area

visiting family. Dawn is the granddaughter of Fred and Marlene Bown.

Adam, Tara, and Hank Clevenger worshiped with us while visiting with Drew and Courtney Penick.

Mike and Tracy Penick took a weekend trip to Pleasant Hill, Missouri, to visit with their daughter Stephanie and her family.

February Anniversaries



9 – Allen & Teresa Bown

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 ♦ Website: pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org

For information call—Bob Flack, (515)262-7329; Lowell Hermon, (515)989-0727; or Mike Warner, (515)967-4529.

Many have experienced various illnesses this past month, including Carroll and Betty Warren, Wanda Burkman, Kinnick Ingle, Lowell Hermon, Vernon McClurg, and Alivia Pritchard. Junior Barlow has had both knees replaced and is recovering remarkably. He is at home. Bruce Harvey has had a bout with kidney stones. Tyler Brady had his wisdom teeth pulled while on break from school. He is doing well and back at school.

Nora Lee Ingle attended the funeral for Doris Ingle Gaulke of Bondurant. Velma Blake and Max Ingle visited with Nora Lee.

Margaret Franklin has moved back to Iowa from Illinois. She has been bringing granddaughters with her to services.

Brady George and the SE Polk Jazz Band were invited to play at a conference in

Louisville, Kentucky. Allison went along as a chaperone.

Niki and Maddy Hermon and Ryan Zinnel were at Martensdale visiting.

Keith and Connie Price were in Minnesota for a funeral for Keith's sister.

Nels and Marje Turnquist have been in Florida visiting with their daughter, Amy Reeves and family, and also some friends who live there.

Karrie Best is in Arizona visiting with family.

Congratulations to Paul and Michele Zinnel on becoming grandparents, and to Steve and Pat Thompson on becoming great-grandparents to Emma Claire Ingle. We held a baby shower for Emma and she received many things. Congratulations to Devon and Erin also.

Our sympathy goes to Mike and Shirley Warner in the loss of his mother, Jewell, who

passed away this past month. Mike also lost his uncle a week later.

February Birthdays

- 5 – Max Flickinger
- 6 – Marc Hermon
- 12 – Jake Brand
- 21 – Josh Brady
- 21 – Cliff Van Vleet
- 23 – Marje Turnquist
- 24 – Sharon Stevens



Iowa Traveling Bible Study (ITBS)

The March 3 study will be at Allen & Teresa Bown's

April study: Ryan & Jamie Ingle's

Please check with host family to see if they would like you to bring any food.

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

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.

Website: vandaliacoc.com

For information call—Greg Ingle, (515)994-2824 or Charles Ingle, (515)966-2537

We rejoiced on New Year's Day when Pam Skinner, mother of Amy Ingle, confessed her faith in Jesus and was baptized! Please pray for Pam; she is struggling with cancer and will begin radiation treatments soon. She has been unable to attend services since January 1st due to her health.

We had our New Year's Eve party on New Year's Day (Sunday evening) this year, since most people were off work and had no school the next day.

Devon and Erin Ingle are proud to announce the birth of Emma Claire Ingle on Tuesday, January 10th; she weighed 6 pounds, 1 ounce and was 19.5

inches long. Emma was about five weeks premature but she is healthy and doing fine. Congratulations!

Bob Guthrie had hip replacement surgery and has recovered well. He was able to attend services on January 28th.

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Vandalia

(Continued from page 4)

Tonya Guthrie's uncle and grandma passed away within the past month. We express our sympathy for Tonya and her family.

Morgan and Drew Cummings and Charity and Lucas Ingle attended the Youth Rally at Gregory Blvd. during the last week of December.

Linda Christianson was visiting for a week. She was a member here for many years before moving to Texas, and it was wonderful to see her again. Linda is having health problems related to diabetes; please pray for her.

Vanessa Groves and D.D. and Donna Russell of the Brookfield, Missouri congregation; and Jason and Staci Miller of Carrollton, Missouri were visitors on January 1st. Denise Drake and Kevin Waits visited on January 8th.

The Murphy family of Monroe, Iowa, who we recently assisted after a house fire, visited on January 22nd. Their

neighbor, Christe Scarnati, accompanied them, and they all joined us for a potluck dinner.

Ruth Schell spent the month of January in Plano, Texas visiting and working with some friends. Justin and Brittney Dowdy visited family in Indiana during New Year's weekend. Lynnette Dowdy and Melda Ingle visited Dawn Dowdy in the Kansas City area. Joy Cummings and Melody Burkman went to Dallas, Texas, to attend business training. Doug, Lisa, Bruce, and Nathan Fiorentin and Kelsey Knight visited Jason and Staci Miller in Carrollton, Missouri, during a weekend.

We gathered at the nursing home in Mitchellville on Sunday evening, January 15th, to sing for the residents, including our members Clifford Duckstein and Ellie Weidemeier.

Alan and Shonya Klein, Briana, Destry, Easton, Kiana, and Tyrell of Lancaster, Missouri, were visitors on

January 8th and 28th. They are members of the congregation in Memphis, Missouri. Alan recently accepted a position with Alliant Energy in Newton, and the family was here the weekend of January 8th to look for housing. We helped them move into a rental home in Newton on January 27th and they are getting settled in now.

It was good to see Richard Goode back at services on January 28th. He has had a long recovery from hernia surgery and other complications.

Cheyenne Goode has made the Dean's List where she is a student at Grandview College. We congratulate her!

February Birthdays

- 2 – Walter Daugherty
- 8 – Melda Ingle
- 9 – Bruce Fiorentin
- 16 – Derek Ingle
- 26 – Amy Ingle
- 27 – Bobbi Duckstein



February Anniversaries

- 17 – Brett & Lori Cole



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