



Lighthouse of Iowa

Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ

January 2019

“Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed”

By Jay Graham

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” ~ Joshua 1:9

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.” ~2 Corinthians 4:16

Recently I was in need of a haircut while out of town. I am always a bit uneasy when visiting a barber away from home, for I never know exactly what I might receive in the form of having both my hairs cut. (See [YouTube - Ray Stevens' "The Haircut Song"](#) and you might understand.)

I was at a mall and I visited their Metro Barber Shop. When I walked in a barber asked how I was, and I responded, “I am very well blessed.” He then invited me to sit in his chair and I received a very good haircut. After I arose and started to pay him another barber approached me and asked if it would be okay if he prayed with and for me.

Of course, surprised, I said sure! He invited the barber who cut my hair to join us in a circle, we put our arms around each other and the barber said a prayer. He asked that God would bless and keep me safe. And he closed the prayer “in Jesus’ name, Amen.” I was a bit taken aback, but I thanked him for his consideration, paid with a good tip and I left. I thought perhaps when I am in the area again, I might stop in and find some more information.

What is interesting is that I am not sure how he knew I would be receptive to such an invitation. I had never been there before, but he may have noticed my earlier answer to the first barber’s question as to how I was doing and decided I would be receptive to his offer. Again, he closed the prayer “in Jesus name.” I have no idea

what his religious affiliation was but I likened his offer and prayer to the words of the Lord in Matthew 10:42 “And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.” What an interesting and edifying experience!

I am reminded of all the problems our society is suffering, and I believe many of them are due to a denial of many of the Lord’s Truths. And I believe these problems will continue to worsen the more into spiritual darkness our society spirals to be sure.

However, it is worth noting that often religious people will paint a bleak picture as to the so-called “rights” they perceive as being taken away. And I wonder, how many of these “rights” are truly worth bemoaning, and in my estimation the truly important rights are given by our Creator. Man cannot take these away even when he may try. Can man keep us from obeying the Two Greatest Commandments? Can man keep us from praying to our Father through Jesus? Can man keep us from offering to our God our lives as living sacrifices? The answer to these questions must be a resounding “NO!” What can man “take away” that is truly important?

It is interesting to note that man might say we cannot put up a so-called “nativity scene” on a public square. Okay. Or he might say religious people cannot put up a shrine to “Mary”. Okay. Do we truly want these things? I do not think so. Things such as these mean nothing to me or my faith, and I am confident they also mean nothing to Christians who are endeavoring to submit to the Lord in all things. Things such as these are not important to our faith, as a matter of fact, I would argue that they hinder faith rather than are examples of it. Or how about this: Man might even say we cannot pray

in a public place. Am I going to let man tell me when and where and how I should pray? This right is given only by our God, and man cannot take it away from me because this right does not come from man in the first place.

I am convinced a purpose from these perceived “problems” ultimately comes from Satan. Why? Because he wants Christians to be afraid and dismayed. It is Satan’s desire we become discouraged, because he knows when we become afraid, dismayed and discouraged we do not do what our Lord wants us to do. When we get the attitude of “wringing our hands” and crying “What are we going to do!” we neglect what our Lord wants us to do. We are tempted to forget the great good the Lord has done and continues to do for us, because our spiritual eyes are on the aforesaid “problems” rather on the Lord.

Perhaps we get like Peter when he became afraid of the wind and the waves when he took his eyes off the Lord. And what is truly interesting about this story is the wind and waves were present at the beginning when he did walk out on the water! They were NOT a problem for Peter UNTIL he took his eyes off His Lord. When we only pay attention to the aforementioned problems, we take our spiritual eyes off Jesus, and that leads us to fear, dismay and discouragement.

Remember, Satan is the author of distractions and lies. The Lord want us to perceive what is truly worthwhile and real. May God continue to grant His people the courage and faith to continue to keep our eyes on the true prize.

“I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

~ Philippians 3:14

Chariton

Meeting times: Sundays: 10:00 a.m. (no evening services)
Location: 15th & Roland, Chariton, Iowa
For information call: Albert Schreck (641) 535-2381 or Brian Schreck (641) 535-2931

- Brian and Tammy Schreck have a new grandson. Titus Wayne was born Dec. 18. Parents are Brett and Chantelle Jackson and he joins his brother, Aquila.
- Visitors this month were Ali Chandiramani and Taylor Faulkner. They were visiting their grandparents, Norm and Mary Jo Riekens.
- Evelyn Bennett has moved to an assisted living facility. **This is a permanent move.** Her new address is:

Evelyn Bennett
 Homestead Assisted Living
 19999 St. Joseph's Drive
 Centerville, Iowa 52544



January Birthdays

- ★ 3 Jeanette Schreck
- ★ 13 Mary Jo Riekens

January Anniversaries

None

Dean Avenue

Meeting times: Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.
Last Sunday of the month: A social after morning services meeting back at 1 pm instead of 6 pm.
Location: 2907 Dean Ave., Des Moines, Iowa / P.O. Box 57398, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327
For information call: John McNeece (515) 263-9428

- **Frances Hawthorne is living at Luther Park in The Gardens Assisted Living apartments.** This is across from Trinity Center where Peter lives. Black mold has been found in their home. A decision hasn't been made yet on whether this is a permanent move.
- Linda Head has been sick with pneumonia but is better now.
- Donna McNeece has been ill with a virus and cough. She is doing better now.
- Debbie Wilkins is wearing a walking boot after her ankle surgery and is able to drive.

- Visitors: Tom Warren, Aiden, Preston and Paxon Boozell, Bill, Bryan, Max and Tally Charlier, Piper Thatcher, Betty Warren, David Fetters and Valerie Hawthorne.



January Birthdays

- ★ 19 Conner Wilkins
- ★ 23 Mary Lou Allen
- ★ 28 Debbie Wilkins

January Anniversaries

None

Fairview

Meeting times: Sundays: 10:00 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

Location: 1001 S. 22nd St, Clarinda, Iowa 51632

For information call: Richard Negley (712)542-3728 or Marvin Negley (712)542-2792

- It is with great sadness we report the loss of Elsie Negley who passed at 107 years of age. She departed this world on December 23. She was the mother of Richard and Marvin Negley. A memorial service for Elsie will be held January 19, 2019 at Ritchie Funeral Home. Please keep the family in your prayers.

- Visitors this month were John & Maddy Negley of Coralville, IA.



January Birthdays

- ★ 7 Tracy Head

January Anniversaries

None

Martensdale

Meeting Times: Sundays: 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

1st & 3rd Sundays of the month: Basket dinner after morning service meeting back at 1 pm instead of 6 pm.

Location: 10985 44th Lane, Prole, Iowa (1.5 miles east of Martensdale, IA on Hwy. 92)

For information call: Duane Proudfit (515) 961-4470 or Mike Penick (515) 681-0279

- Dave & Christy Henderson and Duane & Mary Proudfit attended the graduation of their daughter/granddaughter, Bethany Ford, from the University of Central Missouri.
- We're so thankful Wendy Hounsom got a cancer-free report from the Cancer Center in Chicago. She will continue to have regular check ups to monitor her health.
- Drew and Courtney Tegtmeyer announced they are expecting a baby! We're very happy for them!
- Amelia Rogers is spending a few weeks with Rodney and Alena Ingle and has been worshipping with us during her stay.

- Other visitors this month have been: Mark and Cindy Morris; Judi Mathes; Kirk and Bethany Ford; Jordan Bown; and Kyle and Stephanie Stephens and their family.

EVENT

We are planning to have a meeting with Wade Stanley the weekend of January 19 and 20.



January Birthdays

- ★ January 9-- Hugh Ingle

January Anniversaries

- None

Pleasant Hill

Meeting Times: Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.
Every Sunday: Potluck with afternoon service (Every Sunday – Dec 2 thru Feb 24)
Location: 5091 E. University, Pleasant Hill, Iowa
Website: pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org
For information call: Bob Flack (515) 262-7329, Lowell Hermon (515) 989-0727, Mike Warner (515) 967-4529

STARTING DEC. 2

**WE WILL HAVE POTLUCK EVERY SUNDAY
THRU FEB 24TH WITH AFTERNOON SERVICES
STARTING AROUND 1:00 P.M.**

- It is with great sadness we share that **elder Bob Flack passed from this world to our Lord on Sunday, December 16th.**
Funeral was December 21st.
Please keep the family in your prayers.
THANK YOU to the many that brought food, sent flowers and prayer's during the time Bob was in hospital and since the time of his passing. Everything was very much appreciated.
- Theresa Brady's dad Joe Medina was in Methodist Hospital for a few days.
- Ginger Hermon had surgery on Dec.14th. She had a vein re-attached that is causing her a lot of pain. Ginger is home from hospital and is slowly improving every day.
- Chip and Jennifer Albright and girls have moved in to take care of Keith.
- Steve Thompson (Mike & Shirley Warner's son) is feeling some better. He is cancer free. Praise the Lord.
- Dave Ingle has had both knee's replaced within nine days apart. He would appreciate prayers.
- Tom Brady spent some time in the hospital also.
- Carson George went to drumline camp in Omaha.
- Kathy King went to Missouri to see her niece.
- Pam Sorensen spent some time in St. Louis.
- Erica Goltra's husband received his Doctor of Education from Lindenwood University.

- Marty & Lisa Williamson spent some time in Branson.
- Nick Hermon & Kayley Zimmerman were visiting with Kayley's family in Colorado.
- Kelly & Allison George & family vacationed in Bahamas.
- Miles & Kelsey Wood & family spent time in Indiana visiting family.
- Audra Needham has been sick.
- Ryan & Jamie Ingle & family spent time in Missouri with family. Some of the kids attended the Bible Study.
- Brian McClurg spent time with family. Daughter Jill also visited with family.
- Chip & Jennifer Albright & girls were visiting Chips family while sister Erica stayed with Keith.
- Jason Brady and Wanda Burkman were sick.

EVENT

College Study with Wade Stanley will be Jan. 18 at Lowell Hermon's. Times to be announced.



January Birthdays

- ★ 1 Denise Waits
- ★ 28 Tom Brady
- ★ 31 Doug Bown

January Anniversaries

- ★ 8 Cliff & Rosanne Van vleet
- ★ 31 John & Sharon Mineart

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

- Lisa Fiorentin was honored to receive the Shining Star Award as Employee of the Month at Pella Regional Hospital for November. We congratulate her!
- We were happy to have Morgan Edwards place her membership with us at Vandalia.
- We sang with the residents at Mitchellville Care Center on a recent Sunday evening.
- James and Laura Dowdy and children visited family in Kentucky.
- Ruth Schell had arthroscopic surgery on her knee and is doing fine. Charles Ingle had out-patient hernia repair surgery and is doing well. Matt Clark spent some time in the hospital after being diagnosed with diabetic keto-acidosis. He is home now and coming along well.
- Among our visitors were: Randy and Theresa Ingle and Kinnick; Ryan Ingle; Luanna Murrow; and Valerie Burkman.

NOTE: We send our sympathy to Kim Hall for the death of her father.



January Birthdays

- ★ 1 Lincoln Fiorentin
- ★ 5 Mary Ellen Goode
- ★ 10 Emma Ingle
- ★ 11 Lillian Dowdy
- ★ 16 Blake Fiorentin
- ★ 18 Jessi Henle
- ★ 19 Richard Goode
- ★ 19 Allison Miller

January Anniversaries

- ★ 1 Jason & Mariha Henle

Jay Graham shared this good thought on Facebook about the New Year.

I thought this was an excellent thought and well-worth sharing.

“But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”

~ 2 Corinthians 9:6

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”

~ Galatians 6:7



Voices from the Past

In 1971, the Dean Avenue Church of Christ celebrated their 50th Anniversary. Asking brethren then what their recollections were about Dean Avenue's early days, here's what they said.

Ben G. Brady - "Fifty years ago a few Christians organized a church of Christ on Dean Avenue. Thru their efforts the church has grown and been in existence ever since. The church was fortunate in selecting two elders who worked hard to keep the church pure from false teaching. Many tent meetings were conducted, and many people were added to the church thru these efforts.

I well remember attending Wednesday night meetings when only a very few gathered around the old heating stove and sang songs and studied lessons from the bible. As the church grew we were finally able to branch out and other congregations were established, with sons and daughters of the few original members being the backbone of these congregations."

Alford Warren - "In regard to my first memory of the Dean Ave. congregation: In the year 1922, Eugene Suddeth held a meeting at Vandalia. I hired a Model T and drove out there. The first night he preached on what we commonly call THE FIRST PRINCIPLES OF THE GOSPEL.

"Two weeks later in 1922, I went into Des Moines. The congregation was holding a Mass Meeting. They met in a theatre building on 30th and Dean at that time. I attended and was baptized the first Lord's day in a lake south-west of where the present building stands. With a strong March wind blowing and ice freezing around the edges of the lake Brother Eugene baptized me."

Lola Miller Lowe - "I recall that during the early years of the church it seemed the members were together almost every Sunday, and invariably they would end up at Mungers, because it was so handy to the church building (just around the corner on East 29th). About an hour before meeting time Gladys and Sister Munger would disappear and pretty soon come back with sandwiches."

LeRoy Minger - "The first plans were to just dig a basement big enough to put the furnace in, but Dan Brady showed up on the appointed day to start with his team and said 'if we are going to have a basement, let's make it large enough to do some good', so they did."

Ralph Brady - "I remember all the good times we had together, Irene, Leon, Lola, Mable and I, Elizabeth and Harriet Young and of course Ruth and Fannie and Harvey and Ben and Bernice. We had get-togethers several times at the big house just east of the meeting house on 30th and Dean, and of course at Godrrells, Mungers and ice skating, trip to Jefferson and the Ledges."

Mabel (Brady) Eben - "In August 1921, I, with my parents and family, attended the tent meeting. I was age sixteen at the time and remember this location at 28th & Capital Ave.

"Grandpa and Grandma Brady, [Benjamin & Helen] donated an acre of land for the first Christian Church in Dallas County. Grandpa Benjamin was an elder there.

"In 1907, my dad, Daniel G Brady, homesteaded near Carpenter, Wyoming where he and his boys were helpers in getting a church started there. I have vivid memories of Dad and the boys hitching up the team, and all of us driving off for church each Sunday morning, and as many times in between as possible.

"So when it came time to build the new church building at 29th & Dean Ave., there were willing and experienced helpers from our family. Even Uncle Frank, Dad's brother, helped with the carpenter work. This building was completed in 1923, the year I graduated from East High school as a teacher."

Leon Munger - "As I remember it, one year I raised and sold \$9.00 worth of popcorn from the ground where the Dean Ave. church now stands. I helped dig the basement with Bro. Dan Brady and his team. I helped some on the building. I was the first janitor when we met in the basement, with an old coal stove as our only source of heat. As near as I can remember, Al Warren, Ralph Brady and I are the only ones left now who first took part when the church was started. Old man Foster, a neighbor of the church, helped with the building but never became a member with us. I hope your anniversary will be a great success."