



Lighthouse of Iowa

Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ

January 2022

A New Year and a New Man!

by Glen D. Owens

The calendar says that it is 2022.

The pessimist will say: *'What's the big deal about a New Year?'* The optimist will say: *'Oh boy, a fresh start!'*

Both are talking about the same day but with different views.

Regardless of how you view the New Year, your calendar will show a new year and many parts of your life will reset.

True, you will not feel any different but because of how time is reckoned, you will make a fresh start.

Since most people like to receive new things, a new year should be no exception. Our mental attitude will determine how we regard the New Year.

If you desire, you can make promises to yourself to do certain things in your life that need to be changed. True, you are the same person but your outlook on life can be different.

The calendar cannot make changes in your life but it can be an ally in making improvements.

To a Christian, the word 'new' is very important. The bible is divided into two parts; the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The Christian looks at the New Testament as a new start for mankind. A study of the Book of Hebrews gives details of how the new covenant (testament) is better than the old covenant (testament).

Jesus made the difference when He died for our sins. This made it possible for all things to be made new when we accept Him as our Savior.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: behold old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."
~ 2 Cor. 5:17

In this respect, we can look at our life and say that all things are new. In a sense, every day is a new experience for us because we are a new creature. We do not need to look at our life as the same old thing day after day because the new day gives us opportunities to do good.

A provision for being a new creature is mentioned in Ephesians 4:24; *"And that you put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."*

In this verse we can see that it is necessary for us to put on or become a new man. Yes, the blood of Christ makes it possible for us to become a new creature, but it is not done without us making the choice to become that new person.

Paul wrote about the same thing in Colossians 3:10 when he explained that *"the new man is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him"*.

In the above verse it mentions that we are renewed, we can see that this is a continual process. The renewal is important because we may have a fresh start in our life.

When we make a false move, just like in many sports, we have an opportunity for a

restart. This makes it possible to continue the race rather than being disqualified.

When a child is looking forward to something new, it sometimes seems that the time is too long. We, as Christians, may be in that same frame of mind.

2 Peter 3:13 states; *“Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness.”*

In Hebrews 12:1 our life is likened to a race that we must run with patience. It has been said many times that life is not a dash that is run for a short distance and time but is a long race that requires endurance.

In this New Year, we need to put the past behind us and look forward to the time that God has given us. How we start is very important because the way we begin may very well dictate how we end this year that God has given us.

It gives us an opportunity to correct those things from the past year and prove that we deserve this New Year.



Chariton

Meeting times: Sundays: 10:00 a.m. (no evening services)

Location: Call for information.

For information call: Albert Schreck (641) 535-2381 or Brian Schreck (641) 203-2137

☆ Quiet month at Chariton.



January Birthdays

- None

January Anniversaries

- None

Dean Avenue

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

Location: 2907 Dean Ave., Des Moines, Iowa / P.O. Box 57398, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

For information call: John McNeece (515) 263-9428

- Tammy Fitzgerald’s leg is starting to heal from the amputation which is good news. She will be going to the Wound Center.
- Cathy James and Jim Meek are having respiratory problems.
- Ervin Boozell, father of Shirley McNeece, passed away with Covid-19. Services have been held in Nevada, IA.
- Linda Head went to the hospital with her heart in A-fib. She is doing better with new medicine, but

will stay for observation of her heart rhythm and heart rate.

- Ill this month: Cathy Meek, Jim Meek, John Chapman, Bill & Shirley McNeece

Visitors this month were: Shawn Head, Elsie Chapman, Candy Meek

January Birthdays: ☆ 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

- “Been a pretty quiet month.”

January Birthdays

☆ 7 Tracy Head

January Anniversary

- None

Martensdale

Meeting Times: Sundays: 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

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

- Phyllis Bown was diagnosed with colon cancer. She had surgery to remove a section of her colon and also some lymph nodes. It was discovered that she also had some cancer in her lymph nodes. She is recovering well from her surgery and will meet with her oncologist later this week to discuss chemotherapy. Please keep Phyllis and her family in your prayers.
- Those who could make it rang in the New Year at Dave and Christy Henderson's house.
- We had several visitors this month. Nick and Kayley Hermon; Cindy Stanley; Ethan and Megan Schreck; Adam, Cassidy and Judah Purdy; Kirk and Bethany Ford; Evan and Jordan Haas; Brian and Tammy Schreck; Brett, Chantelle, Quil and Titus Jackson; Gerry, Ashley, Aella and Felix Fenton; Roger Bown and Savanna and Ian...

January Birthdays

☆ 09 – Hugh Ingle

January Anniversaries

None

Pleasant Hill

Meeting Times: Sundays: 9:30 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m.

Location: 5091 E. University, Pleasant Hill, Iowa

Website: pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org

Contacts: Mike Warner 515-967-4529 / Marty Williamson 515-556-2394 / Marc Hermon 515- 554-3567

- **Bud Fillman was in Iowa Lutheran Hospital** for pneumonia. Praise God, he has made improvements.
- **All glory to our Great Physician!** Stephen Thompson had outpatient surgery to remove his port.
- **Tom Brady endured a few falls this month** but was able to stay away from hospitalization in December. He had one visit to the ER for stitches in his neck. Pray he will have strength for a second surgery scheduled January 11.
- **Ron Gearhart has lung cancer.** May God grant Mary & Ron strength to cope. Please reach out to comfort & encourage.
- **Kelly George had surgery at the VA hospital in Iowa City** to remove four blood clots in his leg and ankle. Unfortunately, there were complications and after 8 hours of surgery, his foot clotted again. Kelly spent most of his hospitalization in ICU. Thankfully, doctors determined what caused the clotting and is now recovering at home for approximately 4 weeks. On January 12 Kelly will follow up in Iowa City for assessment. Lord willing, Kelly will be scheduled for bypass surgery at the end of January. Continue to petition for his pain to be manageable and foot blood flow can be recovered. He'd love to hear from you! Send a text or visit him!
- **Daily Bible Study:** On December 31 the Pleasant Hill congregation finished their 7th year of reading the Bible together. In 2022 we will focus on the good news of the New Testament. God willing, we will read through the New Testament in chronological order 4 times. Surrounding congregations/brethren are invited to participate.

We look forward to you reading with us and growing in knowledge and truth!

2022 NT4X Bible Reading Plan

<http://www.pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org/NT4X/NT4Xprint.pdf>

- **Visitors:** We have been thankful to have the following visitors worship with us this past month: Chelsea & Maddox Boyd, Nathan & Kathleen Williamson (Smart Road congregation), Brian & Jill McClurg + friend from England, Tom & Penny Craft (Ottawa congregation), Daniel Suhr (Carly's husband), and Medina Jusufovic (Ryan Zinnel's friend).
- **Those who traveled this month:** Daniel & Carly Suhr: Punta Cana, Dominican Republic; Tim & Tammy Brady: Nevada; Marje Turnquist: Chicago + Minnesota; Jason & Theresa Brady + Needham family: Arizona; Mike & Shirley Warner: Branson; Miles Wood family: Indiana; Ryan Ingle family: Blue Springs; Bailey Righi: Blue Springs; Nick & Kayley Hermon: Colorado; Twaddell family: Kansas City. The following attended the KC youth rallies: Josiah, Leah, Taylor, Diamond, Dominique, Shea, Gabby, Jamie, Marc & Ginger.



January Birthdays

- ☆ 1/1 – Denise Waits
- ☆ 1/28 – Tom Brady
- ☆ 1/31 – Doug Bown

January Anniversaries

- ☆ 1/8 – Cliff & Rosanne Van Vleet

Vandalia

Meeting Times: Sunday: 9:45 a.m. and Wednesday: 7:00 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

Website: <https://vandaliacoc.com>

- Joy Cummings began chemo treatments---continued prayers for her and her family are appreciated.
- Congratulations to Lynnette Dowdy on her retirement from the nursing profession after 44 years. Her family provided cake for the group to help her celebrate—BEST WISHES!
- Abby Ingle had her tonsils and adenoids removed and tubes put in her ears on Dec. 22nd. She is doing better now.
- Erin Ingle began working for PCM schools as an elementary associate in Prairie City.
- Lynnette Dowdy had five grandchildren from Missouri staying with her for a week.
- James and Laura Dowdy and children visited family in Indiana and Kentucky.
- Jason and Staci Miller and children visited family in Missouri.
- On New Year's Eve, lots of food, games and fellowship was enjoyed by the group at our annual party at the church building.

- Visitors this month were: Chelsie Rankin, Ryan Zinnel and Medina Jusufovic, Grant McClung and Annie Trump, Sterling, Malachi, Gatlin, Shiloh, and Aspen Dowdy.



January Birthdays

- ☆ 1 Lincoln Fiorentin
- ☆ 3 Mary Ellen Goode
- ☆ 10 Emma Ingle
- ☆ 11 Lillian Dowdy
- ☆ 16 Blake Fiorentin
- ☆ 18 Jessi Henle
- ☆ 19 Richard Goode
- ☆ 19 Allison Miller
- ☆ 29 Greyson Fiorentin

January Anniversaries

- ☆ 1 Jason & Mariha Henle

Copies of the *Lighthouse of Iowa* can be found at the following two Church websites:

Vandalia Church of Christ: <https://vandaliacoc.com/lighthouse-of-iowa.html>

Pleasant Hill Church of Christ: <http://www.pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org/library.php>
(select *Iowa Lighthouse* under the Library tab)

January 2022

Praise God! We are grateful Gregory Blvd & Lone Jack congregations provided amazing opportunities for our youth at the Winter Bible Studies in Kansas City area! . All glory to our Lord, there were over 100 who attended the 2 rallies from several states!

