



# Lighthouse of Iowa

*Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ*

March 2023

## *Something special about the 1<sup>st</sup> Day of the week*

There is something very special about the first day of the week to Christians.

I cannot find in the Old Law where the LORD proclaimed the Sabbath Day (or sixth day) to be His day. However, the closest verse to make that point may be Exodus 16:23. He said to them, "This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD; bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over lay aside to be kept till the morning.'"

With this verse and others in mind, perhaps it could be argued the Sabbath Day was the Old Testament "LORD'S Day." However, it was not the LORD's will the tradition or even the Laws regulating the Sabbath Day be continued into the New Testament era of the church. The Lord had other plans for the church.

There were certainly references to the first day of the week in the OT, but it was the Seventh Day the Lord wanted emphasized as a Day dedicated to Him.

With great purpose, our Lord Jesus, was raised from the dead on the First Day of the week and not on the seventh day, as the verse at a preface to this article states. With a little calculation, we can easily see that what we know as the Day of Pentecost, on which the NT church was first established in Acts 2, was also on the first day of the week, the very same day of the week our Lord was raised on.

We can further see this was the same day of the week that the 1st century church met on to share together and remember the death, burial and resurrection by observing what we commonly called the Lord's Supper every first day of the week as noted in Acts 20:7.

On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day, and he prolonged his speech until midnight.

The apostle Paul writes clearly in 1 Cor 16:1-2 that since the body was gathered together on that same day, it was the ideal time for the congregations to give into a common collection.

It is further widely accepted that what the apostle John referred to as the "Lord's Day" in Rev 1:10 was probably the first day of the week. What other day of the week could be fittingly called the "Lord's Day", the day our Lord was resurrected? It only makes sense.

We, as the Lord's people, sing a song in Crum's red song book entitled, "Upon The First Day Of The Week" on page 3. It is a beautiful song that highlights what the Lord's people do when they come together every First Day of the week. Each verse starts, "Upon the first day of the week ..." then each verse follows this phrase with something pertaining to that day. Vs 1 states, "Our Savior came forth from

the from the grave.” Vs 2 states, “Disciples met to break the bread.” Vs 3 says, “Let each of us lay be in store.” And vs 4 says, “John saw Christ and heard the trumpet voice,” as written in Rev 1 in the verse I mentioned previously as the Lord’s Day.

I am absolutely convinced it was with great purpose the Lord wanted His people to gather at least one day every week until the end of this world, when Jesus returns. The Lord created us as creatures of habit with purpose.

As our Creator, He surely knows how to motivate us to His Righteousness and Ways. We can see a shadow of this in the Old Law when Israel was to observe the Sabbath Day the same day every week. We gain much by meeting regularly and consistently.

Over the years, I have spoken to Christians who forsook the assemblies for a time, and came back. Many noted how they felt “empty” and their spirits “unfulfilled” during their absence. It is by meeting regularly every Lord’s Day that we “stir up love and good works,” as taught in Heb 10:24-25.

Accordingly, there is no substitute that can provide the spiritual sustenance our spirits crave and need, in order to follow the Lord and His Ways.

Let us cherish this great gift, our Lord has provided for the ultimate salvation of our souls. Let us continue to meet “with” the house of the Lord every First Day of the week when possible..

~ Jay H. Graham



## 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.



### March Birthdays

- None

### March 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

- Wade Stanley and his daughter, Rosie, met with us. He gave us two good lessons, and we shared a basket dinner.
- Peg Warren had bad arm pain and was taken to the hospital. She will have an angiogram on

March 9th to see if there is a problem with her heart.

- Ron & Karma Sharp traveled down to Florida and went on a cruise.

- Cindy Clevenger traveled to Kansas City to pick up her mother and take her to Texas to visit relatives and celebrate an aunt's birthday.
- Risa & Skip Schamel have a new great granddaughter, Payton Marie. She was born February 24th, and weighed 7lbs 7oz.

**March Birthdays**

- ☆ 12 Brita Head
- ☆ 29 Greg Head
- ☆ 30 Roberta Milinsky

**March Anniversaries**

None

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## Fairview

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

**Location:** 1001 S. 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Clarinda, Iowa 51632

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

- Quiet and cold month at Fairview.
- Looking forward to Evangelist Doug Twaddle being with us to speak on March 4 & 5th. We will also have a carry in dinner after services.

**March Birthdays**

- None

**March Anniversary**

- None

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## Martensdale

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

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

**Website:** [martensdalechurchofchrist.com](http://martensdalechurchofchrist.com)

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

- Aléna Ingle had major surgery on January 30<sup>th</sup> at Mayo Clinic and is on the mend doing well.

**March Birthdays**

None

**March 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](http://pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org)  
**Contacts:** Mike Warner 515-967-4529 / Marty Williamson 515-556-2394 / Marc Hermon 515- 554-3567

## Heartfelt Love & Prayers:

- Larry Brady will have heart surgery on March 13, God willing. He & Bev traveled during the month of February to Florida.
- Tim & Tammy Brady have been spending the winter months in Florida in their new home.
- Kelly George's preliminary prosthetic appointment was February 14 and a follow up will take place . As you can imagine Kelly is working hard with PT to prepare him to be qualified for the most advanced prosthetic leg possible.
- Continue to pray his leg wound to heal. God be with you, Kelly, as you continue to persevere!
- Gordon & Chamille Laymon spent time with JC and Melanic Castro who now live in Florida.
- Sincerest sympathy to Larry & Bev Brady and their extended family. Larry's sister, Geraldine Beaty, passed away on February 6.
- This month care packages were collected and distributed to our college students. Please pray for them as they continue their studies: Max Flickinger (DMACC- CADD), Sophie George (DMACC-marketing), Darby Allen (Drake University- music performance), Diamond Blackman (Kirkwood CC-nursing), and Carly Suhr (master's at Univ. of Iowa). Many thanks to Pat Thompson for organizing this good work!
- **Save the Date!** Pleasant Hill Weekend Study with Tad Morris will be held on April 8-9.
- **January thru April 2023, Wade Stanley is teaching the book of Revelation on Wednesday nights. 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.**  
All local congregations are invited. Each week Wade's study is recorded and available on the Pleasant Hill Church of Christ YouTube channel.

## • Praise God for our Youth! February ITBS

We had a great turnout at the February ITBS. Many thanks to Destry & Charity Klein for their generous hospitality! Students did an excellent job with the Book of John exam. Team John & Team James tied at 34 million points. We are well pleased with our youth and thank God for their zeal to study the Word and spend time with Christian friends.



**CHURCH** Open with Google Docs

**Iowa Traveling Bible Study**

**Christian Fellowship & Bible Study!**

**Saturday, March 25, 4pm**

**Miles & Kelsey Wood Home**  
498 Edgewood Lane  
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

**This will be a breakfast themed meal.**  
**Kids can bring desserts to share.**  
**As well as games to play.**  
**Don't forget your Bibles!**

Teachers: Marc Hermon & Alan Klein

## March Birthdays

- ☆ 3/4 - Tim Brady
- ☆ 3/7 – Carly Suhr
- ☆ 3/10 – Chamille Laymon & Susan Brady
- ☆ 3/11 – Gordon Laymon & Henry Conner
- ☆ 3/15 – Ellie Wood

- ☆ 3/17 – Miles Wood
- ☆ 3/19 – Mike Brady & Naomi Needham
- ☆ 3/20 – Bud Fillman
- ☆ 3/30 – Theresa Brady
- ☆ 3/31 – Allison George

**March Anniversaries:**

- ☆ 3/9 – Gordon & Chamille Laymon
- ☆ 3/11 – Bruce & Suzanne Harvey

## Vandalia

**Meeting Times:** Sunday: 9:30 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) 238-3316

**Website:** <https://vandaliacoc.co>

- Sunday, Feb. 5, the group held a 99th birthday party and song fest for Walter Daugherty at the Altoona Care Center where he resides. Many other guests were there along with some residents. We all enjoyed cake with candles which he blew out (not 99 though!).
- On Wednesday, Feb. 8, the group gathered with Melda to sing to her. She enjoyed the singing and sang along with some songs...very precious sister.
- Doug Fiorentin is recovering from his shoulder surgery in January.
- Trent Fiorentin injured his finger at work and had a ligament reattached and is doing fine.
- The group enjoyed fellowship on Saturday, February 11 at the building with a movie along with popcorn and candy.
- Jason and Staci Miller, Allison and Isaac visited family in Missouri.
- Men in the group have started a Men’s Bible Study--- good fellowship and study together.

- Matthew and Ethan Clark served homemade sliders to the group after services on Sunday, Feb. 26, in preparation for a Fareway hamburger contest in March which they are participating in. Sliders were delicious and feedback was given to Matt.
- Visitors this month were: Sue Schreck, Steve and Barb Owens.



**March Birthdays**

- ☆ 4 Devon Ingle
- ☆ 19 Mariha Henle
- ☆ 22 Mason Burkman
- ☆ 22 Abigail Ingle
- ☆ 23 Sharon Cummings
- ☆ 29 Michael Cummings
- ☆ 29 Alan Klein

**March Anniversaries**

- None



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# When Is The First Day Of Spring In 2023?

**Monday, March 20, 2023, at 5:24 p.m. EDT.**

Traditionally, we celebrate the first day of spring on March 21, but astronomers and calendar manufacturers alike now say that the spring season starts on March 20th, in all time zones in North America. In 2020, spring fell on March 19th, the earliest first day of spring in 124 years!

Regardless of what the weather is doing outside, spring equinox marks the official start of the spring season.

The current seasonal lengths for the Northern Hemisphere are (approximately):

- 🌸 Summer — 93.641 days
- 🌸 Autumn — 89.834 days
- 🌸 Winter — 88.994 days
- 🌸 Spring — 92.771 days

As you can see, the warm seasons, spring and summer, combined are 7.584 days longer than the colder seasons, fall and winter (good news for warm weather lovers!).

