



Lighthouse of Iowa

Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ

April 2022

I was so excited that I tried to evangelize the world!

by Nora Lee Ingle

This month's letter was written by Nora Lee Ingle back in 2017 for the *Lighthouse of Iowa*. It is a wonderful and interesting account of her early years becoming a new bride and entering the Lord's Church. With her recent departure returning home to the Lord, we thought it appropriate to publish this delightful and edifying letter again. Enjoy!



World War II was still going on when I graduated from Knoxville High School—that was 1943. On graduation night I was introduced to another high school graduate from Pleasantville, Iowa—Vern Ingle.

The war had caused a scarcity of food items because 'troops' had to be fed. Each citizen of the USA was issued ration books with colored stamps for the purchase of food; red stamps for meat, blue stamps for canned vegetables and fruit. There were also sugar stamps and a stamp for leather shoes.

Love blossomed!

At that time it was really not a good idea to fall in love with a boy who was ready for the draft, and as my Dad said, who lived in the opposite end of Marion County! Why my dad's concern? Gasoline was also rationed. But Vern's dad had a "C" gasoline card because he was a farmer and they could manage to keep gas in the car---a 1937 Ford.

Love blossomed, especially since he went to church. I wanted a family that went to church. (My dad chose not to go.) My parents were OK with Saturday night dates because Vern had a younger sister. Vern took me home Sunday afternoon.

The Object of overnight stays was to introduce me to the Church of Christ at Vandalia where a handful of Saints worshipped in a rural school house. School desks and seats were the pews.

A "new" Christianity

I was shown an entirely new concept of Christianity than I had ever known existed! These saints used only the Bible for study material---not printed quarterlies that had lifted a scripture or two to emphasize a point for each Sunday's lesson.

Everyone was a stranger to me at Vandalia, but before I left that day, all fifteen or so people had greeted me with open arms and invited me back. I was smitten!

Learning about the Church

Thanks to Vern's dad's "C" ration stamps, we had dates including Saturday night stays at his parent's home so I could attend church services the next day.

When we arrived that first day, Vern's mother placed contents of the basket she was carrying, the emblems for the Lord's table, upon the teacher's desk. The circle of pie crust and grape juice were covered with a white linen cloth. I knew little about or the significance of communion.

Soon Noma ('Noma' was her actual name) and her small red headed daughter entered the classroom going directly to the cupboard removing hymnals and bibles. She handed each person a hymnal. One of the men greeted the group, thanking the Lord in prayer for a beautiful day. Never a word was said about the Sabbath.

Russell stood up front and directed us to turn to a certain page in our Sacred Selections hymnal. I wondered, "Where's the piano?" But the men and women sang in beautiful harmony. Lovely!

The young people's classroom was downstairs in the furnace room. We studied from the Bible learning things that I never know existed in that 'new-to-me' book. Included in study I learned about a church that God talked about and had created. About Jesus and the parables; to respect the elderly; how to treat each other, and much more.

These humble and kind souls didn't beg for money or come to your door begging for money to support functions of the church. Rather they admonished to "give as they had been prospered". If a farmer had a crop failure, he wasn't expected to rob his needed expense account for an offering on the Lord's Day.

Feeling at home

In a short time, I had been invited into many homes for a tasty home-cooked meal! Some homes were sparsely furnished; others had conveniences. Hospitality was not only preached but practiced.

Most people in those days had 'Victory Gardens' and vegetables could be found growing in most front yards because of the war.

Vern enlisted in the Army and was shipped overseas. His parents saw to it that I could continue to attend church services twice a month.

Evangelize the World!

I chose to be baptized one day after a longer than usual Bible class (mainly because I kept asking questions!) I answered the Gospel call that day and was baptized in the Des Moines River near

Swan, Iowa. **I was so excited that I tried to evangelize the world!** My nose got bumped many times!

Surprising discovery

When Vern returned from the war we were married in Texas. I used my last 'shoe stamp' so he could buy a pair of nice shoes for our wedding. We eventually went to live on the family farm in 1949 —living in an old farm house.

Soon I became tired of the wooden wanes coting in two of the rooms and had it removed. Beneath it were old newspapers that had been used in the plaster for installation. Of course, I read them, and to my amazement, I came across my maternal grandmother's obituary in one of those papers!

She had died in 1909. But as I read on I came to another unexpected piece of family history. From the obituary I discovered that Grandma Martha had been a member of the Church of Christ at Green Top, Missouri!

Now of course the question lingers in my mind—did Grandma Martha make it to Heaven?



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.



April Birthdays

- None

April 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

- Doug and Jill Twaddell met with us on a Sunday morning. Doug taught our class and gave an excellent exhortation. He encouraged us to

continue to pursue righteousness. We thank them for coming.

April 2022

Visitors this month: Elsie Chapman | Brita, Charlie & Maverick Head | Paxon Boozell | Candy Meek | Madden Sharp

- **Ill this month:** Risa Schamel | Debbie Wilkins | Mary Dobberke.

April Birthdays:

- ☆ 06 Shawn Head
- ☆ 09 Donna McNeece
- ☆ 18 Pam Climpson
- ☆ 19 Peg Warren

April Anniversaries :

- ☆ 27 Bill & Shirley McNeece

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

- “Rather a quiet month.”
- Visitors this month were: Lori Bryant | John Negley | Paul, Race & Brio Negley.

April Birthdays

- ☆ 9 Mary Swisher
- ☆ 28 Morgan Head

April Anniversary

- ☆ 19 Richard & Janet Negley

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

- Drew & Courtney Tegtmeyer are expecting a little one in August.
- Phyllis Bown experienced trouble with nausea and dehydration due to the chemo treatments.
- Mike & Tracy Penick; Drew, Courtney & Millie Tegtmeyer vacationed in Branson.
- Dave and Christy Henderson traveled over Spring Break.

Visitors

- Kirk & Bethany Ford; Evan & Jordan Haas; Ciera Marshall and her son Brad; Brian Salgado; Pam Deckler’s brother Russ and sister Linda; Cindy Stanley & Stephanie Stephens.

April Birthdays

- ☆ 26 – Bill Hounsom

April Anniversaries

- ☆ Duane & Mary Proudfit – April 14, 1962

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

- **Our beloved sister, Nora Lee Ingle, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, March 6, at 11:43 p.m.**

For over 35 years this virtuous woman faithfully served as an elder's wife at Pleasant Hill Church of Christ. Throughout Nora Lee's lifetime, she taught classes, served as secretary for church business meetings, prepared communion, and generously hosted groups in her home.

She took joy in being a Martha and a Mary in her work. During Nora Lee's life, she glorified the Lord through tireless efforts by sending letters of encouragement to brethren and was instrumental in reaching out to those who had fallen away from the Lord, advocating their return. Praise God for this woman who was full of good works and charity!

It gives us great joy and hope to trust Nora Lee is now surrounded by God's loving presence and welcoming saints. 1 Thessalonians 4. Please keep Nora Lee's children and grandchildren in your prayers for comfort and strength.

- **We have welcomed the following visitors this past month:**

Diane Day (Mary Gearhart's daughter), Medina Jusufovic (Ryan Zinnel's friend), Martin Roberts (temporary work in the area), Sidney Righi (Bailey's sister), Matt Harvey family (Prince Road congregation), Mark & Cindy Morris (Murray Road congregation), Chelsea and Maddox Boyd (Theresa Ingle's relatives).

- We were happy to **welcome back Larry and Bev Brady and Marje Turnquist** after wintering in Florida.

- **Allison George** had reconstructive surgery this month in Iowa City. It went well; however, they were unable to do the fat replacement so she will have another surgery after her face heals (approximately in October).

- While **Suzanne Harvey** was spending time in the hospital with Cindy and Nora Lee, Suzanne became very ill with cellulitis in her legs and viral bronchial

infection. Thankfully she recovered fairly quickly due to intravenous medication administered in the emergency room.

- **Chamille Laymon's** grandfather passed away this month. Additionally, her mother, Kelly, started chemo and radiation. Unfortunately, treatments didn't go well and Kelly has been in the hospital for pain management. Chamille and Gordon's family appreciates prayers from brethren.
- **Wanda Burkman** continues to receive care in Altoona Parkridge Nursing Home. Visitors and calls are welcomed!
- **Steve Thompson** had a few falls recently which resulted in a fractured foot. Let's cheer him with phone calls or cards.
- **Kayley Hermon** is in her third trimester. Continued prayers for her and Baby HERmon's healthy pregnancy and safe arrival.
- **Tim Brady** had hip replacement surgery. Praise God it went well.
- Praise God! **Stephen Thompson's** PET scan came back clear of cancer!
- **Alonzo & Joyce Jones** have not been able to attend worship services this month due to illness.
- **Betty Warren** has been ill the past few weeks with bronchial concerns. Betty is the oldest member at Pleasant Hill. Send a 96th birthday card to her this month on the 26th!
- **Congratulations to Ryan Zinnel and Medina Jusufovic on their engagement.** Lord willing, we look forward to witnessing their love for each other and the Lord grow these upcoming months.
- **Pleasant Hill resumed our third Sunday basket dinner** service which includes a CREW meeting in the afternoon.
- **ITBS** went on their second missionary journey on March 19. They started at the Pleasant Hill Church building & decorated cards and cookies. In a four-

hour window, the group delivered 13 care packages and sang to overjoyed & beloved brothers & sisters in Christ across central Iowa congregations. ❤️

Save The Date!

April ITBS will be *April 30 between 4-8 p.m.*, God willing! Details will be available soon.



April Birthdays

- ☆ 4/2 – Karla Fetters
- ☆ 4/7 -Rosanne VanVleet
- ☆ 4/8 – Taylor Ingle
- ☆ 4/10 – Clint Wood, Ryane Needham, Wanda Burkman
- ☆ 4/11- Bruce Harvey
- ☆ 4/20 – Bailey Righi
- ☆ 4/26 – Betty Warren
- ☆ 4/27 – Rylee Ingle

April Anniversaries

- ☆ 4/5 – Randy & Theresa Ingle
- ☆ 4/22 – Eric & Whitney Thorson



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.co>

- Albert Dowdy, Justin and James's grandfather passed from this life on March 31. Prayers for family members as they plan arrangements.
- Lynnette Dowdy enjoyed a road trip with friends and then spent a few days with family in Missouri.
- Justin & Brittney, Carson, Lillian Dowdy and Lynnette Dowdy went to Indiana to visit family.
- Doug and Lisa Fiorentin took a trip to Memphis, Tennessee. Then the whole family spent a weekend in Kansas City enjoying LegoLand.
- Josie Fiorentin will have her adenoids and tonsils removed in April.
- Melody Burkman and her daughter-in-law Morgan have been approved by the Small Business

Association for starting up a business in Prairie City called *Coffee and Carnations*. More exciting information coming later.

- Visitors this month were: Chelsie Rankin, Chris Hayes.



April Birthdays

- ☆ 4 Brett Henle
- ☆ 6 Margaret Ingle
- ☆ 8 Pamela Skinner
- ☆ 17 Aryana Klein

April Anniversaries

- ☆ 15 Devon & Erin Ingle

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> - Lighthouse of Iowa

♪ Into Our Hands ♪

*A song that reminds us of
the limited time we have to do the Lord's work*

A gospel song which encourages us to speak about the gospel to others is ***“Into Our Hands”***. The text was written by Ruth Johnson (Mrs. Roy Carruth), born at Vashti, TX, on Dec. 31, 1900. ***“Into our Hands”*** was copyrighted in 1939 with a tune composed by Tillit Sidney Teddlie (1885-1987). The song reminds us of the limited amount of time which we have to do the Lord's work.

Verse 1:

Swiftly we're turning life's daily pages,
Swiftly the hours are changing to years;
How are we using God's golden moments?
Shall we reap glory?
Shall we reap tears?

Verse 2:

Millions are groping without the gospel,
Quickly they'll reach eternity's night;
Shall we sit idly as they rush onward?
Haste, let us hold up Christ the true light.

Verse 3:

Souls that are precious, souls that are dying,
While we rejoice our sins are forgiven;
Did He not also die for these lost ones?
Then let us point the way unto heav'n.

Chorus:

Into our hands the gospel is given,
Into our hands is given the light,
Haste, let us carry God's precious message,
Guiding the erring back to the right.

