

Lighthouse of Iowa

May 2011

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19

Of all gifts God gave mothers, I'm most thankful today that he created us with hearts made for *pondering* just like Mary's. Shortly after the birth of Jesus, she must have felt exhausted with the accumulation of experiences...His dramatic delivery in that Bethlehem stable, and then all those shepherds arriving to tell her what the angels said about her Child. She couldn't possibly appreciate the meaning of each event, so she simply stored them away like treasures and "*pondered* them in her heart." Later, in Jesus' absence, this process of *pondering* must have become a source of comfort for her.

With two of our children in college and our youngest ready to reach for the car keys, I'm beginning to understand the comfort of *pondering* in their absence.

When they were young, I often felt exhausted by their demands. I remember one day standing in the narrow checkout lane in the supermarket while all three made a final assault on the nearby candy rack. Surely, I looked like a frustrated octopus as I tried to catch hold of six hands at once. An older woman behind me smiled wistfully. "Enjoy these years," she said. "They pass so quickly." I thought she was loony.

But now that they're going their own ways, I understand better. She meant, "Store up all these experiences in your heart because some day in their absence, you'll enjoy all those treasures, without any of the fatigue and frustration."

So as I face this quieter Mother's Day, I'm going to take time for *pondering*, appreciating the memory of all those great surprise breakfasts

in bed (without enduring any burned toast crumbs under my pillow). What a gift!



Lord, on this Mother's Day, thank you for the gift of a heart made for pondering. And bless mothers everywhere for all that they give, all that they are.

Carol Kuykendall



Chariton

Meeting times—Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m.

Location—15th & Roland, Chariton, Iowa

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

Some of our members enjoyed attending the Dean Avenue weekend meeting.

Keith, Kay, and Tad Walker of the Brookfield congregation

attended services with us the evening of the 24th. They were on their way home from the Dean Avenue weekend meeting.

May Anniversaries



30 – John & Carol Smead

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

Yvonne Coe returned from Florida after visiting two weeks with relatives. Two weeks later she and several friends went to Branson, Missouri, for a few days.

Mary Lou Allen spent several separate overnights in the hospital suffering from severe back pain during the first part of April, but has improved very much.

Garry Van Egdome delayed a date for his chemo in order to attend the funeral of his brother, Ron Van Egdome. Clarence and Delores Van Egdome returned home several days after their son's funeral in Des Moines.

Several members of our congregation suffered brief illness last month. They included: David Fetters, Jean Van Egdome, Matt Dobberke, and Lillian Bartlett. Greg Head injured his foot and had a large splinter taken from it. Janice Sellers underwent cataract surgery on April 5th. Carlton, stepson of Mile Warren, is having difficulties with his

heart, but surgery has been delayed. Lillian Bartlett fell again but was not injured. The Johnson family also needs prayers.

Prayers are asked for Cecil Fitzgerald, father of Tammy Fitzgerald. He spent several nights in the hospital.

Bill and Shirley McNeece spent a few days in Austin, Texas, visiting her daughter who was expecting a baby. After a little delay, the new healthy grandbaby entered the world.

Members of Dean Avenue went to Prairie Hill to sing for Maxine Phipps at her new location.

Following extensive planning and preparation, members of our congregation hosted their 54th Annual Spring Meeting on April 23-24. Visitors traveled from various congregations in California, Michigan, Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, and Iowa for the two-day sessions. Evangelists and speakers who brought soul searching and

uplifting sermons and messages included: Marc Hermon, Grant Riggins, Duane Proudfit, Eric Owens, Thomas Dennis, Greg Ingle, Gerald Clevenger, and Drew Teghtmeyer. Dean Avenue women prepared and served the meals enjoyed between sessions. A joyful, soul uplifting time was experienced by all, as the session came to an end. Special thanks to God and all who helped make the two day session successful.

Following the close of the session, a special tribute, led by David Fetters, was held for Ron Van Egdome, who passed this life last month. Members shared their memories and experiences they had with Ron. His widow, Jean, thanked all for their prayers, actions, and good deeds that had comforted her and her family. She said, "Ron won over cancer through the Lord Jesus Christ."

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Dean Avenue

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“Special Note”
 Responsibility for gathering the Dean Avenue news for the monthly Lighthouse returns to Jean Van Egdom in June. I thank church members and Ruth Schell for your patience and kind consideration these past few months. It has been an honor to serve you.

....Frances Hawthorne

May Birthdays

20 – Emily Dobberke 

26 – Linda Head

May Anniversaries

4 – Rex & Tammy Fitzgerald

5 – David & Marla Fetters 

17 – Neal & Peg Warren

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

Greetings to all, from your brothers and sisters at the Fairview congregation in Clarinda.

We are thankful to have Jack and Bobbie Swisher safely back from their winter home in Goodland, Florida.

On Sunday, April 10th, Teagan Hoyt (Judy Madden’s great niece), Hadley Miller (Connie Miller’s granddaughter) and Zoey, Beau, and Kemper Gilmore (Steve and Tammie Driftmier’s granddaughters) were all in

Sunday school class. **Five** was the featured number of the day; our lesson was about David and Goliath, and how David, with God’s help, used **five** small stones against his much bigger foe. Since there were **five** girls in class, it worked out perfectly; it was even nice enough that we went outside and picked up **five** stones each!

Paul, Dasha, and Timber Negley; Megan Steeve; Molly Gilmore; and Dustin Miller all joined us for services during the month. It is so refreshing to

have young people around and a visual reminder of God’s blessings to us.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Mary Lou Madden, Jewell Warner, and Elsie Negley, who have not been feeling up to attending much this month.

May Birthdays

10 – Dustin McCoy

19 – Clint Driftmier

29 – Becky McCoy 



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

Al and Marlene Bown are back from Texas. It's good to have them worshipping with us again.

On April 3rd, Rex Wheeler attended services with Zach and Jenna Wheeler. Rex is Zach's brother. Also visiting was Megan Stevens, who was spending time with her cousin, Jordan Bown.

Marc and Ginger Hermon and their family worshiped with us April 10th. Marc gave the morning exhortation on the book of Matthew. Stephanie Stephens and daughter, Ada, also attended services as they

were in the area for a bridal shower for Stephanie's sister, Courtney Penick.

Drew Tegtmeyer's cousin, Brian Salgado, got a job at Quality Manufacturing and has moved from Missouri to Iowa. Brian has been attending services with Drew and we're very happy to have him meeting with us.

It was good to have Marta Weeks return to services April 17th, after injuring a wrist and a hand in a car accident.

We were thankful to have Marlene Bown return to services April 20th. She is

steadily improving after her surgery in March.



I'm thankful for my improving health, and I thank everyone for the continued prayers, many wonderful cards, and visits!

Love, Marlene S. Bown



May Birthdays

- 14 – Jenna Wheeler
- 21 – Joshua Soard
- 27 – Allen 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.

VBS will be June 20th thru 24th. John Lee will also be the speaker on the 19th.

Among our visitors this past month were: Margo Suddeth; Pat Schrieber, and her son and wife, who were visiting with the Turnquist family; Ryane Brady; Alex Needham; Claude and Paula Sampson; and Sherry and Jenna Sorensen.

Dean and Bev Hayes, JoAnne Wilson and Yvonne Coe spent a few days in Branson, Missouri.

Jason and Theresa Brady spent a few days in Kansas visiting their daughter, Ryane Brady.

Pam Sorensen visited her

brother, John, and family in the Chicago area.

Chip and Jennifer Albright and girls visited family in Fort Scott, Kansas.

Those experiencing illnesses were: Marty Williamson, Denise Drake, Kathy King, Dean Hayes, and Ava Brady.

Randy Ingle has been having tests. Suzanne Harvey is doing some better. Please keep her in prayers.

Dean and Bev Hayes would like to thank everyone for the many beautiful anniversary cards that they received. "We feel very blessed," they said.

At Nora Lee's last cooking

class, those attending were given a lesson in making communion bread. Students were then given diplomas (made by Jamie Ingle). Other awards were also given. This concludes classes for this session. If there is enough interest, classes will resume in the fall.

An 85th birthday celebration will honor Nora Lee Ingle on Sunday afternoon, May 22nd following the afternoon service at Pleasant Hill. Location will be the small clubhouse at Toad Valley from 3 to 5 p.m. Your presence will be your gift to her.

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Pleasant Hill

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A celebration was held March 26th at Doanes Park in Pleasant Hill to honor Spencer Burkman as he became an Eagle Scout, the highest rank of Scouting. He belonged to troop 384 and 98. Congratulations, Spencer!! Spencer and his family thank everyone for their attendance, gifts, cards and well wishes.

May Birthdays

2 – Fred Brady
10 – Lisa Williamson
16 – Ava Brady
20 – Nora Lee Ingle
29 – Shirley Warner



May Anniversaries

5 – Tim & Jami Harvey
6 – Dan & Amy Pritchard
9 – Rodney & Alena Ingle
22 – Tom & Fred Brady
25 – Steve & Nancy Brady



Iowa Traveling Bible Study (ITBS)

The May study will be
May 7 at Nora Lee Ingle's
June 4 & 5 study: Chariton
July study: Junior Barlow's
Please check with hostess to see if she 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

Visitors during the past month were: Jason and Staci Miller; Kevin Waits; Denise Drake, and sons, Max and Jack; Paige Trunnell; James Finney and Alexander; D.D. and Donna Russell; Maddie and Joel Peitzman; Larry and Nellie Blevins of Linton, Indiana; Bob Murray of Artesia, California (Norwalk congregation); and Greg and Deb Wing of Runnells.

We sang with the residents of Mitchellville Care Center on a recent Sunday evening.

Bonnie Harkins is currently having re-hab at Westridge Skilled Care in Knoxville. She

suffered a stroke in early April and spent some time in Mercy Hospital. This affected her legs and balance. Doctors are pleased with the progress she has been making with walking.

Bobbi Duckstein spent four days in Lutheran Hospital having tests, etc. She is getting better after changes in her medicines.

Doug Fiorentin spent a few days on a work-related trip to Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Justin Dowdy was in Detroit, Michigan, on a work related trip.

Kat Cummings was in Omaha for a weekend recently.

May Birthdays

13 – Anna Weaver
13 – Dorothy Van Maanen
15 – Lucas Ingle
23 – Bob Guthrie
25 – Charles Ingle
25 – Ethan Clark
26 – Tim Burkman
30 – Greg Ingle



May Anniversaries

13 – Justin & Brittney Dowdy
25 – Greg & Margaret Ingle



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