

Lighthouse of Iowa

May 2015

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord."

Jeremiah 17:7 (RSV)



When I was a child, spring seemed to take forever in coming. As soon as the April sun began warming the creek, I'd want to go barefoot. Grandma would shake her head "no." Then mild May days would coax blooms from marsh marigolds and trillium. "It's summer!" I'd laugh, tossing my warm sweaters up into the top of the closet. "We ain't had blackberry winter yet," Grandma would say with conviction.

"Blackberry winter"--that's what my grandmother called that final cold snap in May, when blackberries began ripening. And she was always right. Before the month was over, I'd have to retrieve one of those sweaters for a final few days of chilly temperatures.

Now that I'm an adult, I've noticed "blackberry winters" in other areas of my life, too. I save for a vacation, but have to spend the money on a new washer. My "meaningful relationship" with my two teenagers is splintered by occasional spats. I want that recognition for my hard work on the local school board, but am passed over. Sometimes I'm tempted to give up, to surrender to the cynicism that surrounds me. I feel things will never get better.

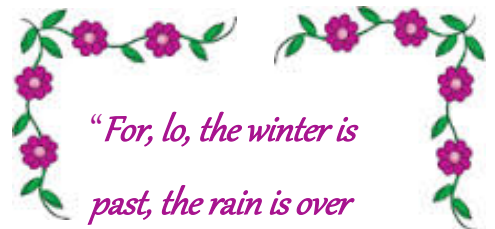
That's when I think of Grandma, sitting in her rocker, her hands stitching quilting pieces. "It'll never get warm!" I used to whine.

"Course it will," she'd laugh. "Blackberry winter is a short season, child. Real short."

And that's the way I try to think of my setbacks, too. Inevitable. Short-lived. As natural as the seasons, the "blackberry seasons" of life.

When things don't go the way I want them to, Lord, help me to remember that nothing lasts forever, nothing except Your love and patience.

--Mary Lou Carney



"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land."



Song of Solomon 2: 11-12

Chariton

Meeting times—Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Location—15th & Roland, Chariton, Iowa
For information call—Albert Schreck, (641)535-2381

Brian Schreck had surgery on April 29th to repair a tendon in his ankle.

Delores Van Egdorn is spending some time in Wisconsin with her son, Keith, and his family.



Brian, Tammy, Ethan, Albert, and Jeanette Schreck attended the graduation ceremony for Ashley Schreck from Northwest Missouri State on May 2nd.

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

Keith Fetters, father of David Fetters, passed away in April. Funeral services were in Chariton.

Don James's nephew, Rod McCloney, was killed in a motorcycle accident.

John Chapman's uncle, Kenneth Chapman, was killed in a motorcycle accident. John is the fiancé of Jessica Strable.

We extend our sympathies to these three families.

Don Warren had cataract surgery on both eyes.

A group of us sang for Maxine Phipps at Prairie Hills, where she resides.

Shirley McNeece traveled to

Texas to visit her daughter and grandchildren.

We were happy to have Marvin and Melda Ingle; Nancy Clark; and Charles, Angie, Charity, and Lucas Ingle attend a Sunday morning service. Charity was going to participate in the annual Governor's Scholar Recognition Program in downtown Des Moines.

Other recent visitors have been Megan Stevens; Larry Sellers; Aiden, Colton, and Preston Boozell; Connor Naatus; Kennady Prenosil; Courtney and Camdyn Trotter; Bill Bryan; Max Charlier; John Chapman; Jake McClung;

Alissa, Jude, and Caden Garbi; Madden Sharp; and Valerie Hawthorne.

Margaret Warren, Earl Allen, and John McNeece have been ill recently.

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

Jack and Bobbie Swisher celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary April 25th. Richard and Janet Negley celebrated their 58th anniversary April 19th! What a wonderful example these two couples set!!

Visitors during the month have been Timber and Minka Negley; Hadley Miller; Zoey, Beau, and Kemper Gilmore;

Amy and Jon Schmidt, Micah, Isaac, and Skylar.

John Lee was with us May 1–3. His knowledge and delivery are always enjoyed immensely!

Our thoughts and prayers are with those members of our group that are dealing with health and family concerns.

May Birthdays

10 – Dustin McCoy

19 – Clint Driftmier

29 – Becky McCoy



Martensdale

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

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

For information call—Duane Proudfit, (515)961-4470 or Mike Penick, (515)989-4165

We're happy to welcome Tom and Dianne Collier to the congregation! They have been meeting with us for awhile now and they placed their membership with us on May 3rd.

Marlene (Fred) Bown had cataract surgery on both eyes over the course of March and April. She's doing well.

Courtney Teghtmeyer traveled with her FCCLA students.

Jay Graham was in the area and gave a lesson about "Words" for us on April 8th. It was good to see Jay and hear his lesson.

It's been good to have Marlene (Alvin) Bown return to services. She has been fighting bronchitis as well as healing from her cracked pelvis.

Bethany Phillips was chosen to attend the 2015 Governor's Scholar Recognition Program

on Sunday, April 26th. Outstanding academic students from across the state of Iowa are honored at this event each year. She was also nominated for The Des Moines Register's Academic All-State recognition.



Bethany Phillips and Jordan Bown will be graduating from Martensdale-St. Marys High

School on Sunday, May 17th. There will be an open house for Jordan on Friday, May 15th, from 5 to 8 p.m. at her home at 10971 44th Lane in Prole. There will be an open house for Bethany on Saturday, May 16th, from 4 to 8 p.m. at her home at 11985 50th Avenue in Prole.

Visitors in April were Rodney and Alena Ingle and kids, and Alena's friend Amelia; Tom and Dianne Collier; Maddy Hermon; Megan Stevens; Dave,

Joyce, and Nora Lee Ingle; and Leta and Grace Fenton. We also had several visitors from the Grandview Church of Christ on April 12th.

We had a little girl's pink coat left at our building after our meeting with Wade. It is a size 3T. If anyone knows who it might belong to, we would like to return it to its owner.

May Birthdays

14 – Jenna Wheeler

21 – Joshua Soard

27 – Allen Bown



May Anniversary

21 – Drew & Courtney Teghtmeyer



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.

Our very faithful sister in Christ, Audrey Brady, passed from this earthly life on April 28th. Services were held on May 4th. Audrey will be missed by family and many friends.

Margo Suddeth and some of her family were back visiting.

Madison Hermon left to travel to Europe with one of her classes at Simpson. Please pray for a safe trip and return.

Bev Hayes was back to services from knee replacement. She has had two heart attacks and had a stent put in. She had a blood clot and they redid the stent. She is feeling better.

Steve Thompson is having issues with his back. The Blackman girls and Suzanne Harvey were sick.

It has been good to see Carroll and Betty Warren at church. Betty fell early in the month and was bruised.

Addie Thompson was staying with Mike and Shirley Warner while Mom had surgery. It was not cancer. Praise the Lord.

Dan and Amy Pritchard and family were visiting Dan's family in Fort Dodge.

The Brand family vacationed in Puerto Rico.

Tyler Brady vacationed in Florida.

Bruce and Suzanne Harvey visited with son Matt's family.

James and Cheryl Evans were visiting with daughter Jamie Ingle and family. Granddaughters were celebrating birthdays.

Megan Stevens and Maddy Hermon have visited Martensdale.

Chip and Jennifer Albright and girls were visiting Chip's family in Kansas.

Jeremy Morris was visiting with family.

Maddy Hermon attended the Smart Road meeting. She also attended the Ottawa meeting.

Paul and Rachela Picaizd from Trois Rivieres QC Canada were visitors.

Steve and Pat Thompson have a new address: 842 Elmwood Ct. Altoona, Iowa 50009.



Congratulations to our graduates this spring! They are:

Ginger Hermon graduated from Simpson College with a degree in Marketing.

Brady George will graduate from Southeast Polk High School, and his open house is Sunday, May 17th from 4 to 7 p.m. at 91 NE 80th St. in Pleasant Hill. Brady plans to attend UNI in the fall, where he will major in jazz performance.

Jake Brand's open house will be May 15th at Sully First Reform Church from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Nathan Williamson's open house will be May 23rd from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at their home at 2725 Meadow Point Ct. in West Des Moines.

May Birthdays

- 2 – Fred Brady
- 10 – Lisa Williamson
- 16 – Ava Brady
- 19 – Alivia Pritchard
- 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

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

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

Lynnette Dowdy; Brittney Dowdy and Carson; Bobbi Duckstein; Lucas Ingle; Nathan Fiorentin; and the Alan Klein family attended the weekend meeting at Smart Road.

Joy Cummings, Drew and Casady; Lynnette Dowdy; Nathan Fiorentin; and Lucas Ingle attended the weekend meeting in Ottawa, Kansas.

Charles Ingle and Lucas; Drew Cummings; and Briana Klein attended the weekend meeting in Lawrence, Kansas.

Derek and Amy Ingle, Brighton and Caleb spent a few days at Clear Lake.



We had a party for Cheyenne Goode, who recently graduated from Grandview University. She will be spending five weeks in China with a program given by the university called Study Art Abroad. We wish her well, and will be anxious to hear all about her experiences.

Congratulations to Charity Ingle for being chosen to attend the annual Governor's Scholar Recognition Program on April 26th in Des Moines. Each high school in Iowa selects a top student to participate.



Charity Ingle and Drew Cummings will graduate from Prairie City-Monroe High School on Sunday, May 24th. Charity's open house will be Saturday, May 23rd from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Ingle residence, 210 County Line Road in rural Runnells. Drew's open house will be Sunday, May 24th from 4 to 7 p.m. at 11302 W. 125th St. S. in rural Prairie City.

Trent Fiorentin had his wisdom teeth extracted.

Visitors were Roger Elam and Valerie Burkman.

We sang with the residents of Altoona Nursing and Rehab Center on a recent Sunday evening.

Ruth Schell attended the Upper Midwest Machine

Knitters "Purls Of Joy" seminar in Princeton, MN.

Mark your calendar for our annual weekend meeting on June 13 and 14. Watch for details in next month's bulletin.

May Birthdays

- 8 – Easton Klein
- 13 – Dorothy Van Maanen
- 15 – Lucas Ingle
- 23 – Bob Guthrie
- 23 – Caleb Ingle
- 25 – Charles Ingle
- 25 – Ethan Clark
- 26 – Tim Burkman
- 30 – Greg Ingle



May Anniversaries



- 13 – Justin & Brittney Dowdy
- 15 – Al & Pam Skinner
- 25 – Greg & Margaret Ingle



*"Strength and honour are her clothing;
 and she shall rejoice in time to come.
 She openeth her mouth with wisdom;
 and in her tongue is the law of kindness."*

Proverbs 31: 25-26