



Lighthouse of Iowa

Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ

July 2020

Putting ourselves in a position to serve

*"To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak:
I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.
And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.
Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize?
So run, that ye may obtain."*

I Corinthians 9:22-24

We live in an extremely busy society. I think ours is perhaps the busiest ever in the history of mankind. Our lives are filled with school, work, and religious and recreational activities. We take our kids to soccer practice, the mall, and to the library. We are involved with activities regarding the church. Men and women work many hours with the hope of earning a living to purchase the items they need or simply desire. In addition to this we need time for relaxation and recreation.

Sometimes it is to the point that we are not in a position to serve when service is needed. Often, we neglect spiritual responsibilities deferring to others, because we are so very busy. This problem even leads us to overlook areas in which there may be a need neglected.

The end result is that a need is not taken care of and those in need suffer. Those who could have served are unable to and their spiritual lives are harmed as well. This is one of the sad commentaries of our busy lives.

Certainly, we have serious responsibilities toward our families and others who depend upon us. Paul tells us 1 Tim. 5:8 – *"But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."* Yes, we have serious physical responsibilities to take care of, and the Lord is aware of what we must do. At the same time we have serious responsibilities toward our brethren and those in the world as we're taught in Gal. 6:10 – *"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."*

We must take great care to keep these responsibilities. Certainly, the Lord knows if we are unable to accomplish one due to our responsibilities to the other, for He is merciful and knows our limitations. The problem comes when we do not put ourselves in a position to serve others. This can be a factor when we consider the occupations we choose or even the lifestyles we follow. Are these helping us with our responsibilities? Are

they putting us in a position to serve?

For some this is not a problem. We can all think of brothers and sisters who are able to keep these responsibilities in proper order. I guarantee you can think of such examples of brethren at this very moment as you are reading this article. They stand out easily. The interesting thing is that these same brothers and sisters probably come to almost everyone's mind as they are reading this article.

Will your name come up as an obvious choice? Are you putting yourself in a position to serve others? Or do you find yourself unable to help because of "scheduling difficulties" that are unnecessary. If we are so busy doing things to provide for our families and are unable to do anything else, certainly the Lord understands. But if we find ourselves in positions that we have chosen that discourage us from our responsibilities toward others, how must we look to our Lord?

~ by Jay Graham



Chariton

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

Location: 811 S. 4th St., Chariton, IA

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

- The Farm Bureau building has not been renting out it's meeting room so **we have been meeting at homes the past month.**
- Norm Riekens is scheduled to have surgery on his shoulder on July 8.
- Ethan and Megan Schreck were visitors this past month.
- **Brian and Tammy Schreck have a new grandson.** Felix Eric Fenton was born June 26. Parents are Gerry and Ashley Fenton.

July Birthdays

★ None

July Anniversaries

★ None

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 / P.O. Box 57398, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

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

- **We will be resuming our Sunday morning service on July 7th.**
- **Yvonne Coe was sick with Covid-19.** She spent a few days in the hospital, but has recuperated and is home feeling better now.
- **Frank Meek is recovering from Covid-19.** He is at home, but is very weak.
- **Elsie Jean Chapman was born on June 18th to John and Jessica Chapman.** She weighed 5 lbs 14 oz and is 19" long. Everyone is doing wonderful.
- **Peg Warren wanted to thank everyone who attended the memorial for Neal.** It was at Mike and Tracy Penick's pond where Neal loved to fish and enjoy nature. Peg said Neal would have been so happy with how it turned out.

- Ron and Karma Sharp vacationed in Colorado.
- Risa Schamel and Misti Hayes vacationed in Florida.
- John McNeece has been spending time during the pandemic buying used Grandfather clocks and refurbishing them.



July Birthdays

★ 02 Kamryn Aswegan

★ 16 Jessica Chapman

★ 22 Cathy James

Anniversaries

★ None this month

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

- We started back meeting at the church since June 7th practicing ‘social guidelines’ for Covid-19.
- Visitors:
Mr. & Mrs. Brad Rankin & family from Gardner, KS. Brad gave us a good lesson about "*Identifying Christ*"



July Birthdays

- ★ 17 - Justin Head
- ★ 13 - Nathan Head
- ★ 18 - Connie Miller

July Anniversary

- ★ None this month

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)
Website: Martensdalechurchofchrist.org
For information call: Duane Proudfit (515) 961-4470 or Mike Penick (515) 681-0279

- **Sunday, June 7 we resumed our normal morning worship service.** We still are not meeting Sunday evening or Wednesday evening.
- **Silas Roy Wheeler was born to Zach and Jenna Wheeler on June 11. He weighed 10 lbs. 10 ozs.** and was 22 inches long. He joins big brothers Malachi and Finneas at home and he is doing well. Grandparents are Allen and Teresa Bown. Great Grandparents are Marge Flack and Fred Bown.
- **After being released from the hospital Jenna developed late postpartum eclampsia** which led to two more hospitalizations to deal with high blood pressure. She is doing much better now and recovering at home.

- We have had several visitors this month. Shawna Divis’ father, step mother, sister, brother-in-law and niece all worshipped with us.
- Pam Deckler’s sister Kathy was visiting and Jordan Bown was home visiting family.

July Birthdays

- ★ Alena Ingle - July 3
- ★ Rodney Ingle - July 5
- ★ Millie Teghtmeyer - July 24
- ★ Tanner George - July 30

July Anniversaries

- ★ None this month

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

- Our congregation is continuing to worship the Lord in the best way we can—through much work and many long hours of especially Marc and Nick Hermon, **we have had “online” church services since the middle of March (for 12 weeks)**. Many from other congregations, even way beyond Iowa, have been ‘listening in’. We praise God for that! Hallelujah! Our next phase was doing “outside, in the parking lot” for the last three weeks of June.
- **Beginning with the first Sunday in July, we will head back into the church building**, with “social distancing” changes. Seating arrangements have been prepared; strongly encouraging wearing of masks; using sanitizers and washing of hands. We are doing our best to follow guidelines that have been asked of us. Thank you to ALL who have participated in making all of this happen!
- Remember the “J-O-Y” song... Jesus FIRST, Yourself LAST, and Others IN BETWEEN. Unless you have a health issue restricting you from wearing a mask (wear a shield?) that kindness alone is one of the best things we can do to respect others in trying to keep them healthy. {NOTE: Pat Thompson is still available to make masks if you need one! Just let her know!}

Drive-by birthdays in May for Alivia and Maisie Pritchard:



We celebrated two high school graduations for Max Flickinger and Elijah Ingle, via a surprise drive-by parade in the church parking lot. We had a fabulous turn-out for these two young men in helping them to have a wonderful celebration. We love you, Max and Elijah! **A special thanks to Nick Hermon for an excellent, fun job as he emceed** the arrival of all the supportive members. Needless to say, Max and Elijah were overwhelmed and extremely thankful to the congregation.



- **Due to the awesome hard work of Ginger Hermon**, another change has been a *ZOOM Children’s Bible class* during the past three months, usually meeting twice a week. Ginger has prepared craft materials and distributed to all the children; plus teaching a lesson each time. She also paired up each child with an older member(s) of our church family as a pen pal to keep in touch and know each other better. Special relationships have been cultivated with many sweet memories and lasting friendships established! Oh what joy!! Thank you so much, Ginger!
- Vacation Bible School has been changed, too. The Lord willing, **we are planning to have VBS this year**

the week of July 13-17, 10:00 a.m. to Noon; age 2 through 6th grade; no adult VBS this year. Our theme is: *God's Builders*.

- **ITBS** has been cancelled through all of this, but Lord willing, we are **planning to start again on July 25th**; thank you to the Dan & Amy Pritchard family for hosting.
- **We also welcome new members Ayden and Madison Twaddell.** Yahoo! 😊
- **Whitney Thorson is anxiously awaiting the birth of her new baby girl.** By the time this letter is published, we should have a new one to celebrate!!
- Please keep Madison Twaddell in your prayers for a continued healthy pregnancy and safe delivery in September.
- **Medical updates:** Mike Warner's hip replacement surgery was cancelled and rescheduled due to the pandemic. His surgery was done on May 12th. He has progressed very well and doing fantastic! So good to see him out and about and able to participate in our church services again!
- **After six weeks of hospitalization** and nursing rehabilitation due to a seizure and falling down their stairway (resulting in both shoulders being broken; one had to have surgery), **Joyce Ingle had a grand homecoming in late June.** Please continue to pray for her full recovery. Due to the seizure, she will not be able to drive for six months. Ryan and Jamie Ingle plan to help as much as they can. Visits and cards are encouraged. Need to coordinate any visits with Jamie Ingle due to several physical therapy appointments during the day. We have a sign up for means to be delivered also.
- **Joyce wants to say a big heartfelt THANK YOU** for all the prayers, cards, and other support that has been shown to her.
- **Nora Lee Ingle** reports that **her oldest son Ned** (who lives in Ft. Dodge area) is going to be **scheduled for surgery sometime next week due to a malignant tumor in his colon.** Due to the pandemic, she will not be able to visit him. Please pray that the surgery is

successful; and the Lord guide the surgeons and staff caring for Ned; as well as peace and strength for Ned as he deals with this.

- **Marje Turnquist** has been struggling with constant nose bleeds. Unfortunately, **the main artery from her heart to her nasal septum erupted while at the doctor's office.** She's had a rough couple of weeks. Her nose had to be packed but now removed. Has to take it easy, which is difficult for Marje to do! Continue prayers for her as she recovers.
- **Suzanne Harvey has terrible foot pain.** She's been to a few specialists. Please pray for her relief and mobility.
- **Betty Warren is healing well from skin cancer removal.** However, she still has infection on her left arm. She has endured a few recent falls as well. Please continue to keep Betty in your prayers.
- **Tom Brady** has been having health issues with a hospitalization during this time. He is home and been going through **testing to see if he is compatible for a kidney transplant.** Please keep this dear brother in your prayers as well.
- **Visitors:** Not really had actual visitors (except the many online ones!). Since going back to the church parking lot, we have had Bud Fillman's daughter, Brenda Bohall, attending with him. 😊



July Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| ★ 3 – Jack Conner | ★ 5 – Michele Zinnel |
| ★ 8 – Julene Pappan | ★ 12 – Steve Thompson |
| ★ 14 – Mike Warner | ★ 16 – Cindy Brady |
| ★ 28 – Nancy Brady | ★ 29 – Diamond Blackman |
| ★ 29 – Kelly George | ★ 30 – Ginger Hermon |
| ★ 31 – Dave Ingle | |

July Anniversaries

- ★ 7 – Jason & Theresa Brady
- ★ 18 – Miles & Kelsey Wood
- ★ 24 – Ryan & Jamie Ingle

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.

For information call: Greg Ingle (515) 994-2824 or Charles Ingle (515) 966-2537

- **While we were not having services at our building, we were meeting on-line**, using Google Meet, where we could all see and hear everyone who joined.
- **On May 24, we started meeting back at the building**, with rearranged seating, in order to be socially distant. We are still using Google Meet, so those not coming to the building can still see our service. We thank Matt Clark for helping to make all this possible.
- There has been **two weddings** take place during the time when we could not share in these happy events.
 - **Lucas Ingle and Shelby Green** were married on the lawn of the groom's parents, Charles and Angie Ingle.
 - The wedding of **Mason Burkman and Morgan Dilley** took place on the lawn of the groom's parents, Tim and Melody Burkman.
- **Gavin Burkman has graduated** from PCM high school, we congratulate him!
- Sue Schreck and Valerie Burkman were recent visitors.
- The Alan Klein family are attending the Camp-out in Excelsior Springs.
- Charles and Angie Ingle are vacationing in Michigan.

July Birthdays

- ★ 1 Sarah Clark
- ★ 1 Tonya Guthrie
- ★ 24 Drew Cummings
- ★ 25 Tyrell Klein
- ★ 26 Robert Cummings

July Anniversaries

- ★ 10 Matt & Sarah Clark
- ★ 14 Bruce & Kelsey Fiorentin

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)