



Lighthouse of Iowa

Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ

July 2021

“Go for the life!”

Jay Graham

A number of years ago I saw two television commercials that were showing various people in varying “exciting” activities such as hang-gliding, sailing, skiing, horseback riding, mountain climbing, etc.

They were very active people having fun and truly “enjoying life” as the commercial said. The message was that if you wanted to truly “enjoy life” you had to do these types of things, and if you were not active, as these people were, you apparently were missing out.

Another commercial of the same type and message that showed people doing similar things and concluded with a man saying, “When I die I want to depart this life worn out.”

I thought to myself, “Are these activities what life is all about?”

“Do I need to participate in these things in order to have fun and enjoy life?” “In order to truly be fulfilled?”

Certainly, there is nothing wrong with these things, and activities such as these can be good for a life to an extent, but they are not what life is all about.

Jesus and every faithful saint of God described in the Divine Scriptures were not

portrayed as those in these TV commercials.

They were not seen climbing the highest mountains, building something large, or playing in the water, yet they were pictured as serving the Lord in their various lives and activities and getting the most out of life for the Lord’s purposes, not for their own.

And most of the times these activities the Lord required of His people were certainly not “fun”, and often not even enjoyable.

However, these saints received the ultimate fulfillment. They were well pleasing to their Creator. And Jesus’ promise at the judgment when He will say, “Well done my good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your Lord” will be manifested.

Yes, Abraham climbed a mountain of course, but not because it was there or to fulfill some life-long dream. He climbed Mt. Moriah to sacrifice his son on an altar. Noah certainly built something large, but not for pride or the reward of a famous architect, but rather he built the Ark out of obedience to his Creator and to save his household and the animal kingdom.

Of course, the greatest example of fulfilling a life was Jesus, while not necessarily “playing” in the water; he did use water to wash His Disciples’ feet in John 13.

What kind of example of life was that? The ultimate way to enjoy life-- that of serving others.

We are not put on this earth for the purpose of doing great things for ourselves, but we are put here to do great things for others.

As it teaches in Galatians 5:13 “For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”

This idea of emphasizing and prioritizing a “fun life” for ourselves is selfishness-- pure and simple. We are put here on the earth to serve the Lord as taught in Ecclesiastes 12:13, and we serve God by being an example of obedience and holiness and serving others.

Consider all the examples we have in the Scriptures of the faithful of God’s people, and give me just one example of a saint of God indulging in his or her own life in a manner pleasing to the Lord.

Yes, to be sure, there were some saints who did indulge in their own flesh, but they were certainly not pleasing to their Lord.

I will never forget the night I was sent out by the Dean Ave church of Christ many years ago.

As the brothers and sisters of the congregation came forward to show their love and appreciation, I recall the words Tom Dennis spoke to me. He said, "Wear yourself out for the Lord and His people."

What a great admonition for a young man! What a great admonition for all Christians!

Let us be God's people, and spend our time by serving others. Only then can we truly accomplish our purpose for living, and only then can we enjoy life to its fullest. Not by giving in?



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

- **Norm Riekens** slipped on water in his bathroom and fell. He got a black eye and hurt his hip but he is feeling better now.
- **Albert Schreck** has been to an eye specialist a couple of times to remove fluid from behind his eye.



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

- Quiet month at Dean Avenue.

July Birthdays – None

July Anniversaries – None

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 are so thankful that **Bobbi Swisher** has been able to return to worship services - she is now making her home at Eiler Place.
- **Visitors:** Paul Negley & Family



July Birthdays

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

July Anniversary

- None

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

- We've started meeting on Wednesday nights again!
- Visitors in June were Cindy Standley, who was visiting her parents, Dick & Phyllis Bown and Stephanie Stephens and her kids!
- Also visiting was **Jordan Bown who is now engaged to Evan Haas!** Congratulations!



- Gordan & Brenda Hainey from Topeka, KS, worshipped with us while camping in Winterset.
- Please continue to pray for Wendy Hounsom, Marlene Bown, and Mary Proudfit as they continue to have health problems.
- Dave Henderson's sister, ZJenny, has entered hospice care.

July Birthdays

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

July Anniversaries

- ★ Zach & Jenna Wheeler – July 13, 2009

Pleasant Hill

Meeting Times: Sundays: 9:30 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m.

Listen from your car at FM station 100.9

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

- PRAISE THE LORD!!! **Mark 16:16, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved!"**

The angels rejoiced when **Chamille Laymon was baptized for remission of sins June 13.**

Additionally, our hearts pour out in overwhelming gratitude that she and her husband, Gordon, have chosen to submit their life to the Lord & desire to be a part of the flock at Pleasant Hill. Thank you, Lord, for leading them to your kingdom! We also welcome their four children (Leah, Malachi, Layla, Myah). Our prayer is that God will bless the Laymon's as they grow in knowledge & truth as they strive to attain eternal salvation. We also pray the sincere love & fruits of the spirit that can be offered by brethren at Pleasant Hill will be a source of encouragement to the Laymon family.

May we all continue to let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly, be devoted in brotherly love, always giving ourselves fully to the work of the Lord!

- **Many from our congregation attended Vandalia's weekend meeting.** Thank you, Vandalia, for an incredibly edifying study! We enjoyed the fellowship with our brothers and sisters-in-Christ.
- **Heartfelt thank you to all who attended Pleasant Hill Church of Christ's Vacation Bible School study.** The adults theme was, "Lord, Build Your Kingdom" and the children studied, "God's Builders." Evangelist Wade Stanley led the children in Bible drills and provided excellent lessons to the brethren during the week. You may listen to sermons at Pleasant Hill COC website.

- **The zeal of VBS week carried over to June's ITBS.** 24 were in attendance! Thank you to Randy & Theresa Ingle for hosting; the kids had a blast! Marc Hermon led a Bible study covering, "Being Wise in Your Own Eyes."



- **Next ITBS will be at Dan & Amy Pritchard's home. July 31, 4-8 p.m.** Bible students are encouraged to bring their Bibles, a lawn chair and a side or dessert to share. Thank you!
- **Save the Date! Pleasant Hill Labor Day weekend meeting, Lord willing, will be held September 4-6.**
- There will be a **Celebration of Life for Keith Price** on Tuesday, July 6 from 4:00 to 6:30 pm at the Thoreau Center, 3500 Kingman Blvd, Des Moines.
- **Congratulations to Jamie Ingle & Kayley Hermon!** Both will be teaching for Des Moines Public School District this upcoming academic year. Jamie will

instruct 18–21-year-old special education at Ruby Van Meter. Kayley will teach middle school social studies at Brody Middle School.

- **Pat Thompson** is recovering well after emergency gall bladder removal surgery Thursday, June 17. We were grateful she was still able to teach VBS!
- **Tom Brady** had the first of two surgeries to place a permanent fistula in his arm for hemodialysis. As well, they removed the port for peritoneal dialysis which he no longer needs. Unfortunately, Tom developed a hematoma over the weekend and was admitted to Iowa Lutheran Hospital. Please continue to pray for Tom.
- **Brandon Ingle** was selected to become a MEDEVAC pilot. He leaves for Alabama in early July for the two-year training.
- **Joyce Ingle** was admitted to Broadlawns Hospital on June 13. Please pray for doctor's wisdom to properly diagnose and treat Joyce's medical concerns.
- **Nora Lee Ingle** had back cancer surgery on June 14. She is recovering well, all glory to God!
- **Linda Garland** back surgery was postponed this past week.

- **Pat Thompson** is recovering well after emergency surgery a week ago Thursday. We are so grateful she was able to still teach VBS this past week!



Save the Date!

☆☆☆ **Pleasant Hill Labor Day weekend meeting** ☆☆☆
Lord willing, will be held September 4-6.

July Birthdays

- ☆ July 1 – Mae Thorson
- ☆ July 3 – Jack Conner
- ☆ July 5 – Michele Zinnel
- ☆ July 8 – Julene Pappan
- ☆ July 12 – Steven Dallas Thompson
- ☆ July 14 – Mike Warner
- ☆ July 16 – Cindy Brady
- ☆ July 28 – Nancy Brady
- ☆ July 29 – Diamond Blackman & Kelly George
- ☆ July 30 – Ginger Hermon
- ☆ July 31 – Dave Ingle

July Anniversaries

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

Vandalia

Meeting Times: **Saturday 3:30 p.m.** Services followed by a meal and recreation and/or fellowship.
Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Services followed by a meal, and afternoon service at 2:00 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.com>

*On 6/10/21, **Evangelist Marvin Ingle** gave up the life of ministering to others to accept his reward. More impactful than his preaching was his living. We will miss him, but never hold him back. Thanks to all who expressed condolences at the visitation, the funeral service, or in many other ways. The family loves you, loves him, but loves God the most. ---Marvin's family---*

- Vandalia meets Sunday mornings at 9:45 am and Wednesday evenings at 7 pm. Adult and children's classes are meeting on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings are topic lessons.

- STREAM OUR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE ONLINE USING GOOGLE MEET. Visit our website, vandaliacoc.com for the meeting code or a direct link.
- Thanks to all who attended our July meeting. It was a blessing to host our brothers and sisters in Christ again and we were richly blessed with wonderful lessons.
- Trent Fiorentin began working for Goodwin-Tucker in Des Moines.
- Josie Fiorentin, daughter of Trent and Leah spent a week in Blank Children's Hospital being treated for RSV. She is home now.
- Greg and Margaret Ingle attended Margaret's belated 50th high school class reunion in Linwood, Kansas. The

reunion was postponed last year, so this year, it coincided with Linwood High School celebrating its 100th year anniversary. Margaret reconnected with many school acquaintances.

- Margaret Ingle will have her aortic valve replaced July 8.
- Michael and Joy Cummings, Casady, Drew and Miriam moved Morgan to Lakewood, Colorado to attend college. They enjoyed a few days sight-seeing also.
- Melody Burkman had 3 levels fused in her cervical spine during neck surgery May 12. She is back to work, off all meds, and her neck brace is now off!
- Charles, Angie, Lucas, and Shelby Ingle and Destry and Charity Klein spent some time in California enjoying the beach, Yosemite National Park, and Sequoia National Park.

- Visitors: Hannah and Joella Heartsill, sisters of Micah and Briana Heartsill.



July Birthdays

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

July Birthdays

- ★ 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)

