



# Lighthouse of Iowa

*Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ*

September 2021

## *Read, study, listen, meditate!*

*Jay Graham*

To state an obvious fact – The Holy Scriptures are central to our relationship with the Lord in so many aspects. They teach us a great many lessons that we must be aware of and follow. Literally, our very souls depend upon them and our applying them to our daily lives.

We walk with God by use of the Scriptures. We worship God in our assemblies and our daily lives of sacrifice by use of the Scriptures. We know of Jesus and His gospel aimed at our hearts and minds. We know of and can be part of Jesus' church by use of the Scriptures.

The importance of these Scriptures can never be overstated.

To state another obvious fact – Realizing how important the Scriptures are to us, it behooves us to learn as much as we possibly can from these Scriptures. This is one reason they are so central to our public assemblies whether in reading, teaching from and being taught from.

This also should impress upon our hearts and minds

the importance of our using the Scriptures in our private lives, when we are away from the assemblies, when we are in our homes and everywhere we find ourselves.

It has been my observation over the years that the more we use different ways of learning God's Word in our daily lives, the more easily we can learn and apply these same Scriptures.

And there are a number of differing ways to learn the Lord's Word and will. As a matter of fact, I might argue an all-of-the-above approach toward the Lord's Word is a great benefit to our private lives.

As you may have noted, the title of this article is "Read, Study, Listen and Meditate."

These are all different ways that we can apply ourselves to learning more of God's Word. Each one of these add a different way to learn and apply the Scriptures to our lives. It is my conviction they all add something different to this goal.

And I believe they all, when used in their various applications, can help give us a

good overall appreciation of them.

For instance, when I read them, I will very often see something unique about a given passage that I may not have noted or appreciated when listening to that same passage.

When I listen to a passage, I can note something different that I may not have noticed when I read or even studied that same passage. And of course, when I actually take time to meditate on what I have read, studied or listened to, that also gives me another level to appreciate a passage.

In other words, the principle of "all-of-the-above" has serious potential to help my total understanding of the Word in so many ways.

With all of this said, modern technology has made each of these aspects very easy to attain.

Of course we have the most commonly used books (Bibles, the Greek form of the word book) that we physically hold in our hands as we read them.

We can also download various translations of the

Scriptures onto our smartphones, tablets and computers that allows us to read at our leisure.

Modern technologies also allow us to download audible programs of the Bible. This allows us to listen at our leisure whether at home or in our vehicles, etc.

We have numerous resources at our disposal such as concordances, Bible

dictionaries, topical Bibles, etc., to help us study God's Word at our leisure.

What marvelous tools we have at our "fingertips" to help us learn of God's Word that previous generations did not have! What blessings!

I urge you to consider using all of these ways to learn more of God's Word in your private lives. And I am quite certain you can come up with other

additional methods to help you learn and apply this most important and impressive of Books, the Lord's inspired Word that He has entrusted us.

Let us use everything at our disposal to come to a better understanding and appreciation of God's Word and accordingly, His will.



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## 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

- Gerry, Ashley, Aella and Felix Fenton were visitors Aug 22.



### September Birthdays

- None

### September Anniversaries

- 6 - Brian & Tammy Schreck

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## 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

- **Johnie & Donna McNeece** were surprised by many of their family members at their home to celebrate their **65th wedding anniversary**. They brought dinner, and all celebrated together.
- **Pam Climpson** has a new address: 5120 SW 56th St., Des Moines, IA 50321.
- **Roberta Milinsky** is visiting in Germany.

- **Risa Schamel** and her family are vacationing in Florida.
- **Visitors:** Candy Meek, Brita, Charlie and Maverick Head, Aiden and Paxon Boozell, Elsie Chapman, Cam Quijano and Shawn Head.

September 2021

**September Birthdays –**

- ★ 22 Jim Meek

**September Anniversaries**

- ★ 9 Don & Cathy James

- ★ 2 Greg & Linda Head

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## Fairview

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 1001 S. 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Clarinda, Iowa 51632

**For information call:** Richard Negley (712)542-3728 or Marvin Negley (712)542-2792

- We need to thank God for delivering Neil McCoy through his medical trials. After spending a week at Immanuel Hospital in Omaha and many test they removed his gallbladder. He is home and slowly gaining back his strength.
- We enjoyed having John & Donna Lee with us August 29th - John gave an excellent talk about "The Lies We Tell Ourselves" - Sunday afternoon was spent discussing spiritual questions that individuals had.
- August Visitors: Paul Negley & family - Urbandale, IA

**September Birthdays**

- ★ September 24 – Tammie Driftmier

**September Anniversary**

- None

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## 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

- Charlie Deckler, Pams husband, was diagnosed with lung cancer and is undergoing treatment.
- Stephanie Stephens and kids came up to help Mike Penick celebrate his birthday.
- Dick and Phllis Bown's grandson, David Stanley and his fiance, Grace, worshipped with us.
- Zach, Jenna Wheeler ad boys spent a weekend in Excelsier Springs, MO and worshipped there.
- Drew, Courtney and Millie vacationed in Colorado.

**September Birthdays**

- ★ Pam Deckler Sept. 5
- ★ Dianne Collier Sept. 7
- ★ Brenday Bown Sept. 9
- ★ Zach Wheeler Sept. 17
- ★ Ayden Twaddle Sept. 20
- ★ Dick Bown Sept. 28

**September Anniversaries**

- ★ Tanner and Tiffany George Sept. 8 2018
- ★ Mike and Tracy Pennick Sept. 24, 1982

## Pleasant Hill

**Meeting Times:** Sundays: 9:30 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 5091 E. University, Pleasant Hill, Iowa  
**Website:** [pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org](http://pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org)

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

- **Pleasant Hill Labor Day weekend meeting**, Lord willing, will be held September 4-6. Many thanks to all local congregation members who provide housing. Please pray for everyone's safe travels, sweet fellowship, and spiritual enrichment. Even more so, pray that our Lord will be glorified during this year's annual study!
- **Congratulations to Randy Ingle!** He now has trademark licensure with the Iowa Hawkeyes for his artwork.
- **Best Wishes to Carson George and Diamond Blackman!** Both are attending Kirkwood Community College.
- **Don Burkman:** was admitted to Iowa Lutheran Hospital for one week, dealing with infection. We thank God for healing Don and helping him endure this medical trial. Wanda Burkman has been housebound for quite some time so both her and Don could use our encouragement: please call, visit, send a card, or take a meal. It means so much to them! Thank you.
- **Mike Warner** had complete hip replacement surgery on August 19. He is recovering well, all glory to God! Continue to pray for his full healing.
- **Tom Brady** is in room 400, Parkridge Skilled Care in Pleasant Hill. Feel free to visit him! Hours are 9-5. He is receiving daily physical therapy and goes downtown for dialysis 3 times per week. Praise God, Tom is making improvements.
- **Kelly George** was admitted on August 6 to Iowa Methodist Hospital for a blood clot behind his knee. Kelly's popliteal artery was completely blocked. Kelly will have an angiogram or by-pass surgery on his leg on September 10. Please pray for Kelly's surgery.
- **Suzanne Harvey** suffered a bad fall August 6. She suffered rib fractures and elbow and shoulder pain/bruising. Thanks be to God she is making improvements.
- **Stephen Thompson** struggled with diverticulitis and a high white count. He has been on antibiotics which caused other troubles. He is scheduled for a scope and, prayerfully, able to remove his port soon. Pray for things to continue to improve for him!

- **Doug Bown** has been recovering from his motorcycle accident in July. We give all glory to God for delivering him through this medical trial.
- **Everyone is invited to Randy & Theresa Ingle's home** on Saturday, September 11, for a Hawk Watch Party. More details to come.
- **Thank you, Ryan & Jamie Ingle**, for hosting August's ITBS. 20 were in attendance! Marc Hermon taught a lesson on "Christ is Our Standard!" We praise God for such a wonderful group of young people who love to be with Christians and study from God's Word!



- **Save the date! Camp Hermon is scheduled for 9/24. ITBS will follow on 9/25.** All local congregations are invited Friday night! Friday night we will share fellowship around the campfire & kids can enjoy an outdoor movie theater. On Saturday everyone is invited back for breakfast and fishing. Stick around for a fish fry. ITBS will be early this month – lunch at 12:30 p.m. with study to follow at approximately 2:30 p.m.



- **Save the Date! Pleasant Hill Labor Day weekend meeting**, Lord willing, will be held September 4-6. Please, RSVP on the Pleasant Hill church website so we can better serve. Here is the link or use the QR code on the flyer invitation:



<http://www.pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org/LaborDay.php>

If you would like to provide housing Labor Day weekend, please let Ginger Hermon know. Thanks in advance for your hospitality!



**September Birthdays**

- 9/2 – Pam Sorensen
- 9/3 – Kayley Hermon
- 9/6 – Stephen Thompson
- 9/13- Niko Felice
- 9/15 – Eric Thorson
- 9/15 – Theo Twaddell
- 9/20 – Ayden Twaddell
- 9/23 – Shea Hermon
- 9/28 – Theresa Ingle

**September Anniversaries**

- ★ 9/2 – Tim & Tammy Brady
- ★ 9/3 – Alex & Ryane Needham
- ★ 9/4 – Marc & Ginger Hermon
- ★ 9/10 – Larry & Bev Brady
- ★ 9/12 – Mike & Cindy Brady
- ★ 9/15 – Marty & Lisa Williamson
- ★ 9/16 – Scott & Julene Pappan
- ★ 9/18 – Steve & Dee Thompson
- ★ 9/29 – Ron & Mary Gearhart
- ★ 9/29 – Steve & Pat Thompson

## 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.com>

- Joy Cummings has ovarian cancer and it has crossed the diaphragm with a small spot on each lung. Prayers for the many decisions that have to be made, strength and healing.

- Prayers for Erin Ingle and family as Erin continues to struggle with migraines.
- Lynnette Dowdy enjoyed a trip to Wisconsin with her daughter, Dawn and 2 grandchildren. She also visited friends in Indiana.

- Bruce and Kelsey Fiorentin and boys visited the Omaha zoo.
- Tim and Melody Burkman and Cameron vacationed at Clear Lake for several days.
- Jason and Staci Miller and children took a trip to see Mt. Rushmore in South Dakota.
- James and Laura Dowdy spent a few days in Kansas City area.
- Several members camped August 27-29 at Red Rock Whitebreast campground. Saturday evening other members joined them for a meal, fellowship and games.
- Visitors in August were: Sue and Bruce Schreck; Grant McClung, Sam McDonald, and Wes Kirscher.



#### September Birthdays

- ★ 2 Casady Cummings
- ★ 8 Charity Klein
- ★ 12 Cameron Burkman
- ★ 12 Cole Dowdy
- ★ 14 Lisa Fiorentin
- ★ 28 Brighton Ingle
- ★ 30 Kiana Klein

#### September Birthdays

- ★ 12 Alan & Shonya Klein
- ★ 23 Micah & Briana Heartsill

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)

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## *New Testament compared to classic literature*

*“The evidence for our New Testament writings is ever so much greater than the evidence for many writings of classical authors, the authenticity of which no one dreams of questioning.*

*And if the New Testament were a collection of secular writings, their authenticity would generally be regarded as beyond all doubt.*

*It is a curious fact that historians have often been much readier to trust the New Testament records than have many theologians.”*



~ **F. F. Bruce** (1910-1990)

*professor of biblical criticism and*

*exegesis at the University of Manchester*