

# Lighthouse of Iowa

October/November 2011

*I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.*--Jeremiah 31:34

I heard a short story once about a man who collected rocks. It all started with his decision to pick up a rock every time his boss made him angry. Soon his pockets were bulging with rocks. His collection grew as he included rocks when anyone wronged him. It wasn't long before he filled not only his pockets, but his yard, his car, his house. He took great pride in being able to pick up any rock in his vast array and recall the specific details of its origin.



A geology professor heard about the man's collection and asked to see it. Arriving with his students, the professor surveyed the piles of rocks. "But these are just ordinary rocks. Why did you collect them?" When the man explained his reasons, the

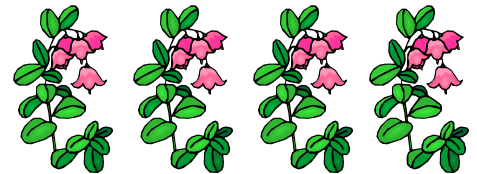
professor was amazed that the man had spent so much time collecting something so worthless.

I am not, by nature, a vengeful person. But I, too, have collected rocks of all shapes and sizes. Hurts from misunderstandings with friends. Resentments from not feeling appreciated by family members. Envy at successes of my neighbors. And more. Not big rocks—most of them more like pebbles—but something to hurl if I were ever attacked. I have reviewed, catalogued, remembered...just in case I ever needed them. Think of the senselessness of life's imaginary battle lines: people on either side, spending a lifetime piling up worthless rocks.

Today's a good day to make a new start—let's clean out our pockets and throw away the rocks. They are weapons of self-destruction, not self-defense. Let's give ourselves, and someone else, the sweet miracle of a second chance. Today, let's forgive someone.

*Lord, give me the courage and faith to walk away from my pile of rocks—to forgive.*

—Debbie Smoot



DEAR FRIEND.

How are you? I just had to send a note to tell you how much I care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were talking with your friends. I waited all day hoping you would want to talk with me too. I gave you a sunset to close your day and a cool breeze to rest you—and I waited. You never came. It hurt me—but I still love you because I am your friend. I saw you sleeping last night and longed to touch your brown hair, so I spilled moonlight upon your face. Again I waited, wanting to rush down so we could talk. I have so many gifts for you! You awoke and rushed off to work. My tears were in the rain.

If you would only listen to me! I love you! I try to tell you in blue skies and in the quiet green grass. I whisper in leaves on the trees and breathe it in colors of flowers, shout it to you in mountain streams, give the birds love songs to sing. I clothe you in warm sunshine and perfume the air with nature's scents. My love for you is deeper than the ocean and bigger than the biggest need in your heart! Ask me! Talk with me! I have chosen you and I will wait because I love you.

Your friend, Jesus

# 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

Norm Riekens had surgery on October 24<sup>th</sup> to correct a kneecap problem related to his previous knee replacement. He is recovering at home.

Delores Van Egdome had an MRI on her left shoulder. There is a tear in it and she will be doing rehab therapy at the Albia hospital. She is hoping this will improve her shoulder and arm.

Several of our members attended the Labor Day meeting. Thank you to the Pleasant Hill congregation for their hospitality and effort.

The men of our congregation attended the Men's Study at Gregory Boulevard.

Albert and Jeanette Schreck and Doug Feters attended the Brookfield meeting. Albert and Jeanette also spent a weekend in Kansas City visiting Bruce, Sue and Leah Schreck. They went to Des Moines for Norm Riekens' surgery and did the Farm Crawl in Lucas and Marion Counties.

Chantelle and Ashley Schreck attended the meeting in Topeka, Kansas. Chantelle also attended the young ladies' study in Brookfield, Missouri.

Barb and Doug Feters attended a meeting in Pollock, Missouri, and Barb

also spent a weekend visiting her daughter, Darla, in Cedar Rapids.

## November Birthdays

21 – Clarence Van Egdome



## November Anniversaries

27 – Norm & Mary Jo Riekens



I want to thank everyone for the cards, concerns and prayers. They are very much appreciated. I am taking hormone therapy at Pella hospital and in the near future will be taking radiation therapy at Ottumwa McCreery Cancer Center.

Clarence Van Egdome

# 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

## Meeting with Rick Sparks

**November 6-11**

**Sunday: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.**

**Monday–Friday: 7:30 p.m.**

### September news

Visitors during September included Pam Climpson; Ashley Fitzgerald and Shawn Shriver (granddaughters of Shirley McNeece); Barry Brownsberger from Nixa, Missouri; Sonny and Marlene Huss; Tyler Curry; Sierra Coe; Kaitlyn Frentiss; Kamryn Aswegan; and Irvin Boozell of Colo, Iowa.

Members ill during September included Margaret Warren, Mike Warren, and Jean Van Egdome. The congregation rejoiced at the return of Donna McNeece after recovery from hip surgery. Don Warren was absent several Sundays from inner ear problems. Larry Sellers has recovered from illness. Travis Head had back problems.

Travelers included Shawn Head, who drove to Minnesota, and Winnipeg, Canada over the Labor Day weekend. Don and Cathy James attended a family reunion. David and Marla Feters and daughter, Kara,

drove to Minnesota for a wedding.

### October news

Travelers included Peg Warren, who flew to San Diego, California, for the wedding of a granddaughter. Marla Feters, Anita Barr, and Roberta Milinsky traveled to Texas and several southern states before returning after several weeks. The three are sisters.

David Feters and family motored to Kansas City, Missouri. They reported their daughter and son-in-law, who live in Hawaii, are expecting a

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Dean Avenue

(Continued from page 2)

baby in late April 2012.

Our congregation was saddened at the death of a long-time member, Alna Meacham, who passed away October 20<sup>th</sup> after several weeks of being in the hospital. Funeral services were held in Carlisle, followed by a dinner at the Dean Avenue church building. Appreciation was expressed to all who helped with the funeral dinner. Burial was at the Iowa

Veterans Cemetery in Van Meter, Iowa, with Military Honors by the U.S. Navy.

Visitors this month included Carroll and Betty Warren; Marty and Lisa Williamson from Pleasant Hill; Alvin and Marlene Bown of Martensdale (he brought the sermon); Ray and Carolyn Camp from near Saylorville; and Mike Turner, Dave Strable, and Jessica Strable.

The congregation rejoiced when Pam Climpson expressed

her desire to join the Dean Avenue church family.

Kara Feters participated in the overnight sleep-out at Drake University.

### November Birthdays

3 – Mary Dobberke  
18 – Karma Sharp  
27 – Dillon Dobberke



### November Anniversaries

2 – Skip & Risa Schamel  
13 – Earl & Mary Lou Allen



## 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

### September news

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Elsie Negley, Jewell Warner, and Mary Lou Madden as they struggle with health concerns. We're always so very glad to see them when they're able to attend services.

Prayers are with Anne Ritson (daughter of Jack and Bobbie Swisher) as she continues her battle with breast cancer that has metastasized to the bone. Anne's address is 12295 Celestia Dr., Burlington, Iowa 52601.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> around two dozen members from Martensdale and Pleasant Hill joined us as we hosted the monthly ITBS meeting. A picnic supper was held Saturday evening and a basket dinner after services on Sunday

morning. What a wonderful sight to have pews filled and refreshing thoughts shared from them!

The Negley family has grown by one, as daughter Minka Vanda Negley joined parents Paul and Dasha on September 21<sup>st</sup>, weighing 6 pounds, 11 ounces. Her grandparents, Marvin and Jean Negley, and big sister Timber welcomed her.

### October news

Several members traveled to Des Moines on October 1<sup>st</sup> to help Clint Driftmier celebrate his marriage to Daira Hoegh.

Mary Lou Madden celebrated her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Anne Ritson continues to deal with after-effects of chemo and is not currently continuing her treatments.

Our friend Connie Miller had a fall and suffered a severely broken arm.

Jack and Bobbie Swisher hosted a fish fry for the congregation on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Guests that day included Clint and Daira Driftmier; Molly, Van, Zoey, Beau, and Kemper Gilmore; Amy and Isaac Schmidt; and Paul and Timber Negley.

We were also glad to have Eddie Crum safely back with us after a business trip to South Dakota.

October birthdays were celebrated for Mary Lou Madden, Steve Driftmier, Will Crum, Lowrie Crum and Richard Negley. Both Mary Lou Madden and Elsie Negley were able to join us for the fish fry and we especially appreciated

(Continued on page 4)

# Fairview

*(Continued from page 3)*

being able to see both of them.

Jewell Warner continues to suffer from headaches and dizziness in the mornings. We miss her presence and hope things improve for her so she'll be able to join us again.

### Great News from Fairview!

On Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, our congregation grew by SIX!! John Edward Crum, Lowree Ann Crum, John Wesley Crum, Kassandra Cora Scroggin Crum, Will Edward Crum and Justin Lawrence Head placed their membership with us. What a great day!!

### **November Birthdays**

- 6 – Marvin Negley
- 11 – Jack Swisher
- 19 – Judy Madden



### **November Anniversaries**



- 20 – Steve & Tammy Driftmier

# 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

### September news

Tom and LuAnn Woody worshiped with us Labor Day Sunday. Tom gave the morning exhortation.

Drew and Courtney Teghtmeyer visited Drew's family in Pleasant Hill, Missouri, over the Labor Day weekend and the first weekend in October.

Stephanie and Ada Stephens were visiting Stephanie's family and worshiped with us September 11<sup>th</sup>, and October 23<sup>rd</sup>. On Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, Stephanie and Ada; Courtney Teghtmeyer; Tracy Penick; and Peg Warren walked in the Race for the Cure.

Dick and Phyllis Bown spent a weekend in Lone Jack, Missouri, visiting their daughter, Cindy Stanley, and her family.

Nicholas Hermon worshiped with us for evening services on his way home from Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Zach and Jenna Wheeler and Jordan Bown camped with the ITBS at Clarinda. Allen and Teresa Bown also went as chaperones.

Mike and Tracy Penick attended the meeting at the Gregory Boulevard Church while visiting Kyle, Stephanie, and Ada Stephens. Teresa, Kyle, and Jordan Bown and Cassidy Phillips also attended the meeting.

### October news

Tim and Karen Bratcher from the Smart Road congregation celebrated their anniversary by taking in the covered bridges in Winterset. They worshiped with us the morning of October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Steve and Cerine Proudfit and their girls worshiped with us October 9<sup>th</sup>. They were in the area visiting Steve's family. Tanner George also worshiped with us that morning. After services several of us went over to the Covered Bridge Festival in Winterset.

Neal and Peg Warren worshiped with us the morning of October 16<sup>th</sup>. Neal gave the morning exhortation on 'Promises'. They were able to stay and enjoy our basket dinner and afternoon service with us.

Duane and Mary Proudfit spent some time in Branson.

Drew Teghtmeyer and Zach Wheeler attended the young men's study in Brookfield, Missouri, and Jenna Wheeler attended the young ladies' study also held in Brookfield. Rodney and Alena Ingle worshiped with us the evening of October 23<sup>rd</sup> on their way home from the study.

Drew Teghtmeyer got a call while he was at the young men's study to let him know his dad, Randy Teghtmeyer, had suffered a heart attack. They were able to put in a stent and Randy is doing well.

Al and Marlene Bown worshiped with the Dean

*(Continued on page 5)*

# Martensdale

(Continued from page 4)

Avenue congregation October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Al gave the morning exhortation.

Dick Bown retired from UPS on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Tracy Penick hosted a dinner for our “under 30” members. They had a good

evening of fun and fellowship.

Marc and Ginger Hermon and their family worshiped with us October 30<sup>th</sup>. Marc gave the exhortation on the book of John.

Marlene Mae Bown had some health concerns but is doing better.

## November Birthdays

- 1 – Bill Weeks
- 12 – Jordan Bown
- 16 – Christy Henderson
- 22 – Brandon Rodriguez



## November Anniversaries

- 13 – Charlie & Pam Deckler
- 28 – Al & Marlene 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](http://pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org)

For information call—Bob Flack, (515)262-7329; Lowell Hermon, (515)989-0727; or Mike Warner, (515)967-4529.

## September news

Niki Hermon was in the Kansas City area visiting.

Steve and Pat Thompson and Cliff and Rosanne VanVleet have arrived home after being in Minnesota for the summer months.

Matt Thompson was home for two weeks visiting with family.

Betty Curtis was out of town with work.

Tim Brady was doing training for when he will be going to Afghanistan in January.

Joyce Ingle was visiting with her parents and other family members.

Lowell Hermon, Marc and Ginger Hermon and family attended the Brookfield meeting.

Marc and Ginger Hermon and family attended the Gregory Boulevard meeting. Ryan Zinnel also attended.

Paul Zinnel had temporary surgery on his neck. He has found some comfort in the temporary method.

Ryan Zinnel hurt his finger playing football. He had surgery and is doing well.

Those attending the ITBS were: Mike and Shirley Warner; Bob and Marge Flack; Rodney and Alena Ingle; Ryan, Jamie, and Elijah Ingle; Kelly and Carson George; Megan Stevens; Brandon Ingle; and Miles Wood.

Those enjoying a day outside at Jester Park were: Don and Wanda Burkman; Mike and Shirley Warner; Bob and Marge Flack; Zach and Jenna Wheeler; Sharon and Megan Stevens; Rodney and Alena Ingle; Ryan, Jamie, and Elijah Ingle; Mike and Cindy Brady; Josh, Ashten, and Ava Brady; Junior Barlow; Randy and Theresa Ingle, Brandon, Kinnick, and Cheree; Betty Curtis; Miles Wood; Kelly, Carson, and Sophia George;

Karla Feters, and granddaughter Katie.

We will be starting to work on the schedule of ITBS for next year. If you haven't had the young people, it is a great opportunity to get to know them.

## October news

We have lost a very dear brother this month. Dean Hayes was taken from us on October 4<sup>th</sup>, and is in the arms of the Lord. Please keep Bev and her family in your prayers. Our condolences to the family.

Our condolences to the family of Alna Meacham, who passed away October 20<sup>th</sup>.

On a happy note we have a new little girl born October 24<sup>th</sup> to Ryan and Tricia (Brady) Baird. Her name is Reece Olivia. She weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Tim and Tammy Brady and great-

(Continued on page 6)

# Pleasant Hill

(Continued from page 5)

grandparents are Larry and Bev Brady. Congratulations to everyone.

Dan Pritchard was in West Virginia for a work conference.

Ed Brady has been visiting with family.

Karla Fetters and Betty George were in the Kansas City area visiting with Betty's son Mike and family.

Nels and Marje Turnquist spent some time with Dale and Marilyn Koestler. They traveled to some of the northeastern states.

Rodney and Alena Ingle attended the Topeka meeting. They also attended the meeting in Brookfield for the young people.

Matt Thompson was home for a couple of weeks. He has now gone back and is out on a ship.

Joyce Ingle and Brandon and Kinnick visited with her family in Missouri.

Keith and Connie Price were in Bemidji, Minnesota visiting.

The Marc Hermon family traveled to Matt and Kelly Harvey's and then to Indiana.

Linda Oldham had outpatient surgery earlier in the month. She is doing fine.

Paul Zinnel will be going to Omaha November 10<sup>th</sup> to have

the new implant device in his neck.

Vernon McClurg is making improvements slowly.

Dani Brand, Jack Flickinger, Cheree Stump, Sharon Stevens, Betty Curtis, Justin Stevens, Larry Brady, and Steve and Pat Thompson have been sick recently. Steve is also having back problems and hopes to go to Mayo/Rochester Clinic.

Ryan Curtis has a stress fracture in his back.

Thanks to the Dean Avenue congregation for the Pumpkin Promenade in October. Everyone had a good time.

Cindy Shook was a visitor in October.

Nora Lee Ingle visited a relative in Schaller recently.

Suzanne Harvey was admitted to the hospital for a couple of days due to some medication and blood issues. Her blood was dangerously thin. She is under close supervision of her doctors.

Clay Felice has a virus called mesenteric adenitis. He has been sick for a couple of weeks.

Marc and Ginger Hermon and family were at Martensdale.

Ryane Brady and Alex Needham were visiting with Ryane's family.



*We would like to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards, flowers, and food and paper products during Dean's illness and since his passing. Everything was appreciated. Thanks to everyone for the luncheon and all the ladies who helped with it.*

*Bev Hayes and family*



## November Birthdays

- 3 – Niki Hermon
- 8 – Tammy Brady
- 16 – Audrey Brady
- 18 – Ryan Ingle
- 19 – Emily Harvey
- 20 – Marge Flack
- 20 – Marty Williamson
- 23 – Chip Albright
- 23 – Justin Stevens
- 26 – Larry Brady
- 29 – Jaden Brand



## Iowa Traveling

### Bible Study (ITBS)

**The December study will be December 5 at**

**Dave & Christy Henderson's**

Please check with host family to see if they would like you to bring any food.

If you have any questions, call Rodney Ingle at 515-669-0365.

*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 131<sup>st</sup> St.  
Website: vandaliacoc.com

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

Our list of visitors during the past two months included Kelly and Allison George, Brady, Carson, and Sophia; Elijah and Heather Johnson, Abbie, Eli, and Cheyenne of Martinsville, Indiana (Elijah gave the morning exhortation); Aubryn Twaddell; Jason and Staci Miller; Denise Drake; Kevin Waits; Jen Bradwell (a college room-mate of Cheyenne Goode); Miles Wood; Betty George and son Mike.

## September news

Ruth Schell, along with her brother and wife, Clarence and Linda Bartlett of Des Moines, spent nearly three wonderful weeks touring many interesting areas in Ireland and France.

Lisa Fiorentin underwent surgery on her shoulder September 1<sup>st</sup>, and has now recovered after therapy.

Brittney Dowdy is now employed at a dental office in Altoona.

Richard and Mary Ellen Goode, and Mariha accompanied Cheyenne to Mayo Clinic for her check-up.

Joy, Morgan, and Drew Cummings, and Charity and Lucas Ingle attended the meeting in Brookfield, Missouri.

Brett and Lori Cole's son, Danny, had a motorcycle accident and broke his collarbone.

Tina Hinckley has moved back to Vandalia after living for a while in Des Moines.

Justin and Brittney Dowdy

attended services with the Prince Road congregation in Illinois.

## October news

Marvin and Melda Ingle; Lynnette Dowdy; and Justin and Brittney Dowdy visited Dawn Dowdy in the Kansas City area.

On Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, many of our members attended a workday, installing a new belfry and putting back the bell that had hung for many years. All this was accomplished with having a donated steeple erected. All who pass our way will soon see a lighted sign at the corner of the parking lot as well.

Our congregation recently gathered at the Altoona Nursing Home for a singing session with the residents there.

A "Revealing Party" was held before church Wednesday evening, October 5<sup>th</sup>, where Devon and Erin Ingle broke the news that their expected new baby will be a GIRL! When the "mystery" cake was cut, it was pink, indicating the baby's gender.

Charles and Angie Ingle, Charity and Lucas, and Nancy Clark attended church services at Kirksville, Missouri, October 9<sup>th</sup>, where Charles was the guest speaker for the congregation's recognition of Truman State University's annual homecoming.

Justin and Brittney Dowdy

and Lynnette Dowdy drove to Laclede, Missouri, where they helped Sterling Dowdy celebrate his birthday.

Our ladies enjoyed a brunch at the church building Saturday morning, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Mary Ellen Goode has decided to retire from the Indianola School District after 16 ½ years of service.

Greg and Margaret Ingle, and Doug and Lisa Fiorentin and Nathan spent a recent weekend in Carrollton, Missouri, visiting family.

Lucas Ingle was one of three students from Prairie City-Monroe Middle School selected to participate in an Iowa middle school honor band concert on November 1<sup>st</sup>. He plays the trombone and is the son of Charles and Angie Ingle.

## *November Birthdays*

- 2 – Ellie Wiedemeier
- 3 – Tina Hinckley
- 15 – Cheyenne Goode
- 15 – Gavin Burkman
- 16 – Morgan Cummings
- 16 – Erin Ingle
- 17 – Nancy Clark
- 24 – Angela Ingle
- 29 – Doug Fiorentin
- 29 – Lynnette Dowdy
- 30 – Brett Cole



## *November Anniversaries*



- 13 – Richard & Mary Ellen Goode