

Lighthouse of Iowa

February 2009

*But if we hope for that we see not,
then do we with patience wait for it.---Romans 8:25*

Last night Lake Michigan dumped half a dozen inches of "lake-effect" snow on my town. Snowplows push through drifted streets; merchants snow-blow sidewalks. Nowhere is there a sign of spring—nowhere except at the Dairy Barn.

The Dairy Barn is one of those wonderful seasonal phenomena—opening in late April and closing just after Labor Day. All summer long kids (even old ones like me!) line up for sundaes and floats and sodas. When summer ends, the Dairy Barn boards up its windows with huge pieces of plywood. Depressing, right? Not really. In fact, those very pieces of plywood have become a symbol of hope for me all through the cold, blustery winters—because written on them in huge white letters are these words: OPEN SOON.

Soon. I remember when my wheels spin on packed-down snow. I think about crocuses when I scrape ice off my windshield. I imagine hot fudge while I shovel out my mailbox. And that simple sign has taught me the importance of expectant waiting in other

areas of my life too. I visualize myself ten pounds thinner as I pick up the speed on my daily walk. I see a tranquil family meal, free from sibling squabbles, while I set the table. I imagine children listening and smiling when I give my next talk at middle school. I anticipate health and happiness filling up my life.

Why not join me? Close your eyes right now and see your hopes realized—a child healed or a problem solved or a promotion received. Now open your eyes and expect great things to happen—soon!

Thank You, Father, for the power of hope. On this wintry day I believe in spring; in the midst of my troubles, I believe in Your peace.

Mary Lou Carney



MIDWINTER

My window looks upon a world grown gray,

Where grim trees seem like troubled men in prayer;

Smoke pours from chimneys, telling that the day

Is drear — that piercing winds have chilled the air.

No songbird trills — only the sparrows wait

Hunched in their feathers, for the proffered crumb;

It is as if some stern, relentless fate

Had gripped the earth and left it tired and numb.

Even the far-off whistling of a train

Sounds weary, dwindles to a ghostly wail;

Does all the world reflect war's gloomy strain,

Wondering what foes, what evils may assail?

But spring will come — of this there is no doubt,

With blossoming bough...if mankind would implore

The powers that be to put war's curse to rout,

Could peace not bloom, too, in the world once more?

MARGARET E. BRUNER

Chariton

Meeting times—Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Location—15th & Roland, Chariton, Iowa

For information call—Clarence Van Egdome, (641)932-5686 or Albert Schreck, (641)535-2381

Clarence and Delores Van Egdome are great-grandparents to twin boys, Easton and Chase, born to Jared and Stacy Van

Egdome of Des Moines.

Ethan Schreck had his adenoids removed on January 30th.

February Birthdays

25 – John Wayne Smead



Dean Avenue

Meeting times—Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6: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

Several from our congregation were sick this past month, including Kara Fetters, Don James, Jean Van Egdome and Bill McNeece.

Dillon Dobberke jammed his finger.

Debbie Wilkins had an ultrasound biopsy on a thyroid nodule. Thankfully the results came back with no cancer cells!

Ashley Fitzgerald had an embedded stitch that became infected.

Lillian Bartlett became so ill that she was near pneumonia. Please keep her in your prayers.

Dwight Fetters has had a bad case of sinus infection that has set him back. He is not doing well at all.

Alna Meacham fell January 5th and bruised her face. Otherwise she was all right.

Peg Warren reported that her pacemaker is working 100 percent of the time for the lower part of her heart. It seems when she had her heart attack that it did more damage than was first thought. Please pray for Peg.

Linda Head had a CT scan

on January 20th of her aortic aneurysm to see if there has been any change.

Our visitors on Sunday, January 11th were Stephanie Reading and Charles Ross of Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Misti Strable worshiped with us on Sunday, January 18th. Worshiping with us on Sunday, January 25th were Mike and Angelina Warren with Mary and Carlton; Kim Lanc; and Troy Brand and his children, Jake and Sydney. Troy was our guest speaker and we all appreciated his thoughts on being a Christian.

Roberta Milinsky visited her father, Charles Cobb, and her sister, Anita Patterson, Sunday, January 11th in Fort Dodge.

David, Marla and Kara Fetters, along with Roberta Milinsky worshiped at the Pleasant Hill congregation, where David was the guest speaker on Sunday, January 18th.

Peter and Frances Hawthorne flew to Washington, D.C. where they participated in various activities surrounding the inauguration for our new U.S.

President. While there, they stayed with their daughter, Valerie Hawthorne, in Silver Springs, Maryland. The Hawthornes worshiped at the Church of Christ at 16th Street and Decatur in Washington, D.C. Joining the Hawthornes were Frances' sisters from Missouri. (The Hawthornes did not join their daughter and sisters on the Washington Mall during Inauguration Day.)

Ron and Jean Van Egdome became grandparents again on January 4th, when Jared and Stacy Van Egdome welcomed twin boys, Chase Elton, 5 lbs, 10 oz., and Easton James, 4 lbs, 13 oz. Easton had breathing problems when he was born and

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February Birthdays

5 – Earl Allen

5 – Danielle Strable

8 – John McNeece

16 – Bill McNeece

25 – Frances Hawthorne



Dean Avenue

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is in the NICU at Blank Children's Hospital and is gaining every day. They join big

brother, Enoch, two years old. Ron, Jean, Jared, Stacy and Stacy's parents, Elton and Ruth Blenden of Summerset, Pennsylvania, thank you all for your

prayers on Easton's behalf. Easton is going to need open-heart surgery in five or six months to repair the hole in his heart.

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

No news this month.

February Anniversaries

14 – Marvin & Jean Negley



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

Several of us started out the New Year by gathering at Christy Phillips' home. We spent time singing, playing games, eating and fellowshiping.

Fred, Marlene, Brenda, Allen, Jenna, and Jordan Bown and Zach Wheeler attended services at Excelsior Springs, Missouri on

January 4th. After services they spent the afternoon with Bryan and Jennifer Bown and their family.

Drew Teghtmeyer attended services with Courtney Penick. Other visitors this month were Dave Henderson; and Charlie and Pam Deckler.

February Birthdays

27 – Elena Rodriguez



February Anniversaries

9 – Allen & Teresa Bown



Life's Loyalties

I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.

Abraham Lincoln

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

For information call—Bob Flack, (515)262-7329 or Lowell Hermon, (515)989-0727

On January 4th we cancelled services due to a very slick parking lot.

Bud and Mary Alice Fillman went to Florida to visit with Bud's mom and sister.

Tom, Fred, Jason and Theresa Brady went to Texas. Jason and Theresa stayed for a week. Audrey Brady flew down to Texas.

Among those on the sick list were Ashten Brady, Dani Brand, Betty Warren, Vernon McClurg, and Lowell Hermon.

Ryan Ingle proposed to Jamie Evans and she accepted. Congratulations!

Brandon Ingle was bitten by their dog and had 16 stitches on his face.

David, Marla and Kara Fetters were our guests January

25th. David was our speaker and gave a lesson on "Continuing to Grow." Thanks, David, for a good lesson. Roberta Milinsky was also a guest.

Suzanne Harvey plans to have gastric bypass surgery in Grinnell on Friday, January 30. Please remember her in your prayers.

February Birthdays

- 6 – Marc Hermon
- 12 – Jake Brand
- 21 – Josh Brady
- 21 – Cliff Van Vleet
- 23 – Marje Turnquist
- 24 – Sharon Stevens



Iowa Teen Study (ITBS)

The February study will be Feb. 7 at 4:00 p.m. at Duane & Mary Proudfit's house.

Mar. study: Mar. 7 at Brian & Tammy Schreck's

Apr. study: Apr. 4 at Christy Phillips'

Please check with hostess to see if she would like you to bring any food.

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

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

A large group of us, plus other guests enjoyed our annual New Year's Eve party at the church building, with lots of food, games, and fellowship.

Among those who worshiped with us this past month were, Michelle Kirby, Jason Miller, Dwight and Beth Duckstein and sons, Phillip and Jacob; James Finney and son, Alexander; Kelsey Knight, friend of Bruce Fiorentin; and Sam Pe-

ters, friend of Katrina Cummings.

Paul Weir spent a few days in Veteran's Hospital and has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He is now home and under care of hospice. We ask that you please include him in your prayers.

Mary Kohlhof's husband, Mike, had a heart attack and was in intensive care for a few days. He has a long history of

heart problems, and his condition was not improving at the hospital. He is now home under the care of hospice. Please keep Mary and her family in your prayers.

Justin Dowdy had surgery on his tailbone and is recovering at home.

Dwight Duckstein reported that he has taken a job in Ma-

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Vandalia

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quoketa, Iowa and they plan to move there from Woodward, Iowa.

Linda Christianson recently visited her son Joe and wife, Ainsley in Texas. Margaret Ingle spent some time this past month with her mother, Thelma Bolinger in Carrollton, Missouri.

Our congregation enjoyed a potluck breakfast before services Sunday morning, January 18th.

Erin Ingle reports that her mother, who lives in Las Vegas, experienced complications from

her recent surgery, but has now begun to improve.

Eunice Ingle of Des Moines, sister-in-law of Marvin Ingle, passed away recently.

We are very happy to announce the good news of the baptisms of Rob and Nick Guthrie on January 19th. They are the sons of Bob and Tonya Guthrie. We look forward to helping them grow in their Christian walk.

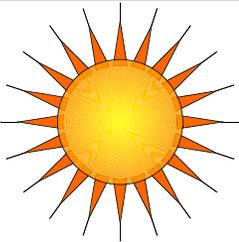
Cheyenne Goode, daughter of Mariha Goode has been chosen for the Central College honor choir. Also, Cheyenne's speech group received a #I rating, and will be moving on to

the State Competition in February. Congratulations Cheyenne!

We were pleased to learn that Lynnette Dowdy is now permanently employed with Iowa Methodist Medical Center.

February Birthdays

2 – Walter Daugherty
5 – Max Flickinger
8 – Melda Ingle
9 – Bruce Fiorentin
16 – Derek Ingle
26 – Amy Ingle
27 – Bobbi Duckstein



Need of Contrasts



If the world had known no winter and the times were always spring,
Would we watch the birds fly over; would we listen to them sing?
If our hearts had known no sorrow and our bodies known no pain,
Would there be the same rejoicing as when lives are whole again?
If the earth had seen no storm clouds or perhaps there were no night,
Would the sunshine of the morning fill our souls with such delight?
Life, it seems, has need of contrasts and my heart with rapture thrills
When on dark days I remember every valley has two hills.

JUNE MASTERS BACHER

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