

Lighthouse of Iowa

March 2008

With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love.... Ephesians 4:2

Last week, while cleaning the house, I found a pair of my husband Leo's old shoes stashed away in a corner. "I'll just throw these out, okay?"

"Not yet. They might come in handy."

"But look at them!" I protested. They're turned up at the toes, run down at the heels, there's a hole in the sole, and the laces are broken."

"So? I could still use them for gardening." He grinned sheepishly.

Mumbling and grumbling about useless old shoes and taking up prime storage space, I stuffed them back into the cupboard.

The following Sunday, I held the church door open for Alice as she brought her husband to the worship service in a wheelchair. He was smartly dressed in a gray suit, white shirt and maroon tie, but it was his black shoes that caught my attention. They looked so shiny and new, with not even a hint of a crease across the vamps. *That's because he hasn't walked since his stroke ten years ago, I thought.*

The very next morning, I was about to complain about another pair of Leo's old work shoes littering the back entrance when I stopped short in my tracks. *Thank you, Lord; that he has been healthy enough to take thousands of steps in these wrinkled old shoes. He has worn them to carry in the groceries and carry out the garbage. By the look of the mud on them, he has even tilled the garden in them and dug my flowerbeds. Thank you for the man who wears these shoes.*

I surprised myself by what I said next. "Is it okay," I called to Leo, "if I park your gardening shoes right here on the welcome mat?"

Father God, help me to appreciate my loved ones more and fret about their petty annoyances less.

ALMA BARKMAN



THOSE WE LOVE THE BEST

One great truth in life I've found,
While journeying to the West—
The only folks we really wound
Are those we love the best.

The man you thoroughly despise
Can rouse your wrath, 'tis true;
Annoyance in your heart will rise
At things mere strangers do.

But those are only passing ills;
This rule all lives will prove;
The ranking wound which aches and thrills
Is dealt by hands we love.

The choicest garb, the sweetest grace,
Are oft to strangers shown;
The careless mien, the frowning face,
Are given to our own.

We flatter those we scarcely know,
We please the fleeting guest,
And deal full many a thoughtless blow
To those we love the best.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

Annual Spring Meeting
at Dean Avenue

March 22 & 23

Saturday: 3:00 & 6:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

All sessions and meals will be
held at the church building,
2907 Dean Ave. in Des Moines.

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

Please remember that our congregation will not have Wednesday evening services during March.

Tom Vandevenne, who attended services with us for a period of time, passed away on February 11. A memorial service was held for him in Grinnell.

Norm Riekens was scheduled for an angioplasty,

but the doctors were unable to place a stent or do a balloon procedure on the blockage, so they are treating Norm with medication.

Evelyn Bennett had an appointment with her cardiologist, who told her to continue taking medication for her blockages.

March Birthdays

- 5 – Ethan Schreck
- 9 – Barbara Feters
- 23 – Evelyn Bennett
- 25 – Norm Riekens



March Anniversaries

- 17 – Clarence & Deloris Van Egdome
- 19 – Albert & Jeanette Schreck



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

Everyone is invited to our Annual Spring Meeting on March 22-23. The theme is "The Pilgrim's Progress." Saturday's sessions are at 3:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Sunday's sessions are at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Meals will be provided between the sessions each day, and recreation is planned following the Saturday evening service. We will be mailing flyers with a list of topics soon.

Maxine Phipps was in the hospital with pneumonia and urinary tract infection; she is now home and doing much better.

Alna Meacham was hospitalized for tests to determine why she was losing blood. She is home now and doing better. Alna has been sick with a cold also.

Mary Lou Allen had a scan of her kidneys, and the kidney results were okay, but she has gall stones. Mary Lou also had out-patient surgery on Monday, February 25. Please pray for Mary Lou!

Peg Warren had tests on Monday, February 25; doctors were trying to find the location of the nerve at the base of her brain that is causing so much pain in her face. When they can pinpoint the exact spot, they will then go in by cyber-knife and shoot the spot from all sides. This spot will be about the size of a pencil mark, so needless to say, this is very delicate work! Peg cannot remain on the pain medication any longer, and there isn't any other option open for her. She needs your prayers!

Juanita Coe has also gone through several tests.

Cathy James fell on the ice at work and broke her ankle. Ron Van Egdome fell on the ice in his driveway and hit his head; he had three stitches above his right eyebrow.

Charles Cobb, father of Roberta Milinsky and Marla Feters, had a bout with pneumonia but is doing much better now.

Many others have been sick recently. Don James almost developed pneumonia, Ron Sharp was ill with a virus, Don Burkman had the flu, and Spencer Burkman had sinus infection. Margaret Warren and Jan Sellers haven't been feeling well. Jim Meek had an allergic reaction to his medicine.

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Dean Avenue

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Juan Acosta, who lives in the neighborhood, was a visitor on February 3.

Yvonne Coe vacationed in Florida and had a lovely time visiting her family. Risa and Skip Schamel traveled to Florida to see Risa's son, Jaime, and then they took a cruise to the Caribbean. David, Marla, and Kara Fetters went to Eldon, Missouri, to attend a bridal

shower for Alissa Fetters.

On February 2, the "Young" Adult Class hosted a Sweetheart Dinner for the "Upstairs" Adult Class. Everyone had a lovely time of fellowship while they enjoyed the dinner.

There will be a bridal shower for Alissa Fetters on Sunday, March 2, from 2-4 p.m. at our building. Alissa is engaged to Ian Garbi, son of Louis and Sally Garbi of Eldon, Missouri.

March Birthdays

- 11 – Donna Meek
- 14 – Peter Hawthorne
- 16 – Neal Warren
- 17 – Lillian Bartlett
- 23 – Spencer Burkman
- 26 – Don Warren
- 29 – Greg Head
- 30 – Roberta Milinsky



March Anniversaries

- 11 – Larry & Janice Sellers



Fairview

Meeting time—Sundays: 10:00 a.m.

Location—22nd & Orange St., Clarinda, Iowa

For information call—Richard Negley, (712)542-3728

Evangelist John Lee of Greenwood, Missouri, was with us on February 23 and 24 for a weekend study. On Saturday evening he spoke about the Observance of Passover and Luke the Physician. On Sunday, John's morning topic was The Passage of Time. In the afternoon, John responded to questions we had, and he had a list of questions prepared for us as well. We enjoyed a lasagna dinner before services on Saturday, and we had a potluck dinner on Sunday.

Mary Lou Madden has shingles, and she is having a lot of pain.

There was a somewhat encouraging report on Anne Swisher Ritson's cancer treatment last month.

Paul and Dasha Negley of Urbandale, Iowa, joined us for services on February 3 and also during the weekend of February 23 and 24 while John Lee was here.

Marvin and Jean Negley worshiped with the congrega-

tion at Nixa, Missouri, on February 10.

Pat Warner of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, joined his mother, Jewell Warner, for church services on February 17.

March Birthdays

- 7 – Jean Negley
- 8 – Molly Gilmore
- 18 – Jacob Rine



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



We are sad to report the passing of Imogene Sparks on Saturday, February 23. Imogene's health had been declining and she was recently placed in the nursing home under the care of Hospice. Imogene was married to the late Jake Sparks, and she is survived by two daughters, Linda Looker of Liberty Center, Iowa, and Nancy Miller of Ottumwa, Iowa. The visitation and funeral were held on Wednesday, February 27. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Sparks family.

Alice Witt, the aunt of Al, Fred, and Dick Bown, and sister of the late Berneice Bown, passed away in early February. Alice and her husband, Glenn, lived in Iowa several years ago but spent most of their married life in Colorado. A graveside service was held on February 9, followed by a dinner at the home of Al and Marlene Bown.

We cancelled our services due to the blizzard-like weather

on Sunday, February 17.

Visitors during the past month were Rick Sparks, who was our guest speaker for both services on February 24; Hunter Kingsbury, a friend of Courtney Penick; and Al and Marlene Bown.

<p>March Birthdays </p> <p>7 – Courtney Penick</p> <p>March Anniversaries </p> <p>27 – Dick & Phyllis Bown</p>
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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

We are having a meeting with Steve Wright of Topeka, Kansas, during the weekend of March 8 and 9. Steve will give a lesson on Saturday evening at 7:00, and he will give two lessons during our Sunday morning worship, beginning at 9:30. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Kelly and Allison George had an electrical fire in their home. No one was injured, but they had a lot of smoke damage. They are living in temporary housing for a couple of months.

Nora Lee Ingle fell on some ice on February 14.

She hit her head pretty hard and was taken to the Knoxville hospital for a CT scan. The test did not show any internal bleeding.

Many of us have been ill recently. Mike Warner had sinus surgery and bronchitis. Justin Stevens had strep throat. Theresa Ingle and Cheree Stump both had sinus infection. Sharon Stevens had bronchitis. Suzanne Harvey had a migraine headache. Dani Brand had sinus infection and bronchitis. Alena Brady, Theresa Brady, Christina Franklin,

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<p>March Birthdays</p> <p>3 – Jennifer Albright 4 – Tim Brady 5 – Erica Price 7 – Carlene Felice 10 – Susan Brady 19 – Mike Brady 20 – Bud Fillman 23 – Lowell Hermon 24 – Megan Stevens 25 – Karole Turner 27 – Jami Harvey 28 – Tehya Franklin 30 – Teresa Brady 31 – Allison George</p> <p>March Anniversaries </p> <p>11 – Bruce & Suzanne Harvey</p>	
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Pleasant Hill

(Continued from page 4)

and Julene Felice and family have also been sick.

Tim Casey was in the Sioux City area. His father's health is failing, and Tim was making arrangements for him to have some help.

Bud and Mary Fillman left

for Texas on February 10, and they will be starting home in a few days.

Tom, Fred, and Audrey Brady will return home from Texas in early March.

Tim Brady is still in Arizona on guard duty, and Josh Brady has returned home.

Christy and Cassidy Phillips of the Martensdale congregation and Ruben and Deanna Garcia from Yuma, Arizona, have been our visitors.

We cancelled services on Sunday, February 17 because of the winter storm.

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

Tracy Patterson is recovering fine from her knee surgery in early February.

Marvin Ingle has been recovering from his back surgery. He was having a lot of pain for the first few weeks but is doing better now.

Your editor, Ruth Schell, had the misfortune of falling on ice in her driveway on February 16 and broke her right wrist. Consequently, she needed surgery to have a plate installed to repair the damage. Therefore, our former editor, Angie Ingle, volunteered to produce this current issue of the news, and it is very much appreciated.

Matt Clark had a car accident in Altoona when another driver ran a red light. He had a sore back but was not

seriously injured.

Margaret Ingle has osteoarthritis in her hands, and she's been having a lot of pain. She had reconstructive surgery on her left thumb on Wednesday, February 27, and she'll have surgery on the other thumb later.

Derek and Amy Ingle are pleased to announce that they are expecting their first child in September. Congratulations!

Twenty people from our group enjoyed an Iowa Stars hockey game on Saturday, February 9 at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

Due to the bad weather, our church

services were cancelled on February 17.

Looking ahead, the dates for our annual meeting this year will be June 7 and 8.

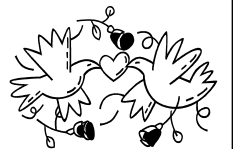
March Birthdays

- 4 – Devon Ingle
- 15 – Marvin Ingle
- 19 – Mariha Goode
- 20 – Tracy Patterson
- 21 – Nick Guthrie
- 22 – Mason Burkman
- 29 – Linda Christianson
- 29 – Michael Cummings
- 30 – Katrina Cummings



March Anniversaries

- 4 – Jerad & Amy Penick



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