

Lighthouse of Iowa

May 2008

Honoring mothers with our time

Honour thy father and mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Exodus 20:12

After 17 years of marriage, my wife wanted me to take another woman out to dinner and a movie. She said, "I love you, but I know this other woman loves you and would love to spend time with you."

The other woman that my wife wanted me to visit was my *mother*, who has been alone for 20 years, but the demands of my work and my two boys had made it impossible to visit her very often.

That night I called her to invite her to go out for dinner and a movie.

"What's wrong, aren't you well?" she asked.

My mother is the type of woman who suspects that a late night call or a surprise invitation is a sign of bad news.

"I thought it would be pleasant to spend some time with you," I responded. "Just the two of us." She thought about it for a moment, and then said, "I would like that very much."

That Friday after work, as I drove over to pick her up, I was a bit nervous. When I arrived

at her house, I noticed that she, too, seemed to be nervous about our date. She waited in the door. She had curled her hair and was wearing the dress she had worn to celebrate her last birthday on November 19th.

She smiled from a face that was as radiant as an angel's. "I told my friends that I was going to go out with my son, and they were impressed," she said, as she got into my new white van. "They can't wait to hear about our date."

We went to a restaurant that, although not elegant, was very nice and cozy. My mother took my arm as if she were the First Lady. After we sat down, I had to read the menu. Her eyes could only read large print. Halfway through the entrees, I lifted my eyes and saw Mom sitting there staring at me. A nostalgic smile was on her lips. "It was I who had to read the menu when you were small," she said. "Then it's time that you relax and let me return the favor," I responded.

During the dinner, we had an agreeable conversation—nothing extraordinary, but catching up on recent events of each other's lives. We talked so much that we missed the movie.

As we arrived at her house later, she said, "I'll go out with you again, but only if you let me invite you." I agreed.

"How was your date?" asked my wife when I got home.

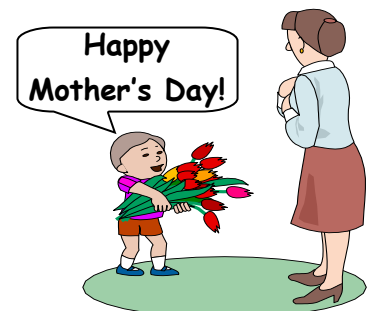
"Very nice. Much more so than I could have imagined," I answered.

A few days later, my mother died of a massive heart attack. It happened so suddenly that I didn't have a chance to do anything for her.

Some time later, I received an envelope with a copy of a restaurant receipt from the same place mother and I had dined. An attached note said, "I paid this bill in advance. I wasn't sure I could be there; but nevertheless, I paid for two plates—one for you and the other for your wife. You will never know what that night meant for me. I love you, son."

At that moment, I understood the importance of saying "I LOVE YOU" and to give our loved ones the time that they deserve. Nothing in life is more important than God and your family. Give them the time they deserve, because these things cannot be put off till 'some other time.'

from e-mail



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

Evelyn Bennett had triple by-pass heart surgery on April 14th. She had some complications with her blood sugar levels that caused her to be hospitalized a few days

longer than normal but she is now recuperating at home.

Visitors on April 13th were Bruce and Sue Schreck and family, and Teresa, Jared and Vanessa Groves.

May Anniversaries
 30 – John & Carol Smead 

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 McNece, (515)263-9428 or Don Warren, (515)967-5650

Many were sick in April with various colds, flu and other ills. They were Don Warren, Marla Feters, Donna Meek, Glenn and Alna Meacham, John McNece and Jean Van Egdome.

Ashley Fitzgerald is scheduled to have surgery on May 14th. Please pray that they can solve her problem. Grace Wilkins has started therapy. Jean Van Egdome spent a few days having tests done in the hospital after experiencing

chest pain. Fortunately all the tests came back clear and the doctors think she just had possible muscle spasms in the chest wall. Michelle Kirby was in the hospital for gall bladder surgery and then had a flare up of pancreatitis. Wayne Patterson was also in the hospital for severe vomiting. They were running lots of tests to see why. He is out now and is to have a stress test soon. Wayne is the son-in-law of John and Donna McNece. Please pray for Karma Sharp; she has bulging discs in her back.

Clark Welcher, Maxine Phipps and Alna Meacham at services Sunday, April 27th. Even though they have to struggle to make it, they come in with a smile a mile wide! They are such a blessing to us all! Let us not forget Juanita Coe and Elsie LeMar.

Travis Head's friend, Stephanie Riding was our visitor on April 13th. Michelle Kirby worshiped with us on Sunday afternoon, April 13th. Mike Kirby was our visitor on Sunday, April 20th. Our visitors on Sunday, April 27th were Jim and Candi Meek; Jami Harris, granddaughter of Donna Meek; Valerie Burkman; and Stephanie Riding.


Roberta Milinsky was in Las Vegas, Nevada attending a conference with her sister, Anita Patterson. Marla and Kara Feters attended at Tent Chapel on April 13th to take Marla's father, Charles Cobb to services. Frances Hawthorne was in Oklahoma attending a

(Continued on page 3)

80th Birthdays

The children of Peter and Frances Hawthorne will host a celebration reception for his 80th birthday and her 80th birthday on Saturday, May 31st, 2008 from 1:00–4:30 p.m. at Corinthian Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 9th and School Street (just south of freeway) in Des Moines. No gifts please. Hors d'Oeuvres will be served. A program will be presented at 2:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

We want to remember those who have trouble getting to services. We miss you but understand that it is difficult for you, too. It was good to see

50th Anniversary

The children of Don and Wanda Burkman are having a 50th wedding anniversary celebration for their parents on Sunday, May 25th at the Church of Christ, 2907 Dean Ave., Des Moines, from 2:30–4:30 p.m. Everyone is invited.

Dean Avenue

(Continued from page 2)

meeting with her sorority sisters on Sunday, April 13th. Mike Kirby traveled back to Indiana the weekend of April 26th. Ian Garbi returned to the U.S.A. on Friday, April 25th! Because of problems with American Airlines, his flight was delayed a week, but he is now back on American soil, praise God! Alissa Fetters and Ian will be married on

Saturday, May 3rd in Jacksonville, North Carolina. David, Marla and Kara Fetters left for North Carolina on Monday, April 28th.

Our sympathy goes to Lillian Bartlett on the passing of her sister, Jean H. Archer, 73, on Friday, April 4th. Lillian, our thoughts and prayers are with you! Our sympathy goes to Donna McNeece and her family on the death of her mother, Fern P. Hodges, 95, on

Friday, April 11th. Donna, John, Bill, Shirley, Kay and Keith—our thoughts and prayers are with you!

May Birthdays

20 – Emily Dobberke

26 – Linda Head



May Anniversaries

4 – Rex & Tammy Fitzgerald

5 – David & Marla Fetters

17 – Neal & Peg Warren



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

Richard Negley spent a couple of days in Clarinda Regional Health Center. He had severe bronchitis, but was glad to learn it was not an asthma problem.

Jean Negley held a Bible study at Eiler House on April 10th. The subject was on “Love.” Ladies from our congregation attending were: Jewell Warner and Mary Lou Madden. Elsie Negley resides at Eiler House.

Amy and Jon Schmidt and son, Micah of Sioux Center joined her parents, Steve and Tammie Driftmier for services on April 13th.

Linda Lou Negley Taylor of Springfield, Missouri, and Paul Negley of Urbandale, Iowa were visitors on April 20th.

Anne Swisher Ritson of Burlington, Iowa continues with her cancer treatments. Please keep Anne and all her family in your prayers as she copes with this “health challenge.” She is the daughter of Jack and Bobbi Swisher. And....Jack and Bobbi have met a grand milestone in their life! Their 60th wedding anniversary was April 25th. Congratulations to this special couple.

Neil McCoy continues to wear a heart monitor due to the fainting spells he has been experiencing. Doctors are watching him and are still puzzled as to the cause of his problem.

May Birthdays

10 – Dustin McCoy

19 – Clint Driftmier

29 – Becky McCoy



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

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

Mike Penick's Grandmother Mott passed away Sunday, April 6th. Stephanie and Kyle Stephens were back for the funeral and worshiped with us

on Wednesday, April 9th before heading back home to Lee's Summit, Missouri. Our sympathies go out to the family.

May Birthdays

- 14 – Jenna Bown
- 21 – Joshua Soard
- 27 – Allen 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
For information call—Bob Flack, (515)262-7329 or Lowell Hermon, (515)989-0727

It was good to see Betty Warren back at church after her surgery.

Chip, Jennifer and Lily Albright welcomed a baby girl, born on April 9th. Her name is Annabel Rae, and she weighed 9 pounds, 4 1/2 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Grandparents are Keith and Connie Price, great-grandmother is Dessie Sorensen.

Nora Lee Ingle received word that her 17th great-grandchild had arrived. Derrick Michael Ingle was born April 24th to Jarod and Sharon Ingle in Anaheim, California.

Among those visiting during the past month were Paula

Sampson, daughter of Carroll and Betty Warren; Christy Phillips and Dave Henderson; Mark and Cindy Morris; Jenna and Kyle Bown; John, Kim and Austin Martindale, and Kim's friend, Jessica Dodd; Steve Wood, who was visiting with son Miles and the Zinnel family. Brad and Nancy Rankin and boys were visiting with the Hermons. Jamie Evans was visiting with the Ingle family.

Steve and Pat Thompson were in South Carolina visiting with son Matt Thompson. Dean and Bev Hayes were in Branson for a few days. Joyce and Rodney Ingle and Alena Brady were visiting Roy and Ruth Whanger. Tim and Ann Casey were in the Sioux City area where Tim's family lives. Tim's dad, Ken Casey passed away and the funeral was the 18th of April. Our sympathy goes out to his family.

Susan Conner,

Clay Felice, Jason Brady, Maddy Hermon, Tim Harvey and Rena Christian have all been on the sick list.

Dessie Sorensen had a bad kidney infection. She is better now and back at services.

Shirley Warner's nephew, Brandon had a benign tumor in his ear canal; we are thankful it was not cancer. He had surgery on his ear and is doing well.

Bruce Harvey is still having

(Continued on page 5)

Iowa Teen Study (ITBS)

The June study will be **Friday, June 6 at 5:00 p.m. at Dave and Joyce Ingle's house.**

July study: July 12 at Nora Lee Ingle's

August study: Aug. 16 at Paul & Michelle Zinnel's

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

May Birthdays

- 2 – Fred Brady
- 10 – Lisa Williamson
- 16 – Ava Brady
- 20 – Nora Lee Ingle
- 29 – Shirley Warner



May Anniversaries

- 5 – Tim & Jami Harvey
- 6 – Dan & Amy Pritchard
- 22 – Tom & Fred Brady
- 25 – Steve & Nancy Brady



Pleasant Hill

(Continued from page 4)

trouble with kidney stones. He is some better.

Pam Climpson and Carroll

Warren were in accident. They were not injured and we are very thankful for that.

Betty Warren donated a quilt to the Dollars For Scholars

program at Carlisle. It sold for one thousand dollars!

Congratulations, Betty.

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

Paul Weir spent a few weeks in the Chicago area attending computer classes.

Linda Christianson's husband, Gil suffered an asthma attack due to smoke and fumes from a fire extinguisher at work and was taken to the emergency room.

Dwight and Beth Duckstein and sons, Phillip and Jacob worshiped with us on April 6th. They also visited on April 20th, along with Joseph Duckstein, who was visiting from Alaska.

Linda Christianson; Lynette Dowdy; Marvin and Melda Ingle; Doug and Lisa Fiorentin, Staci, Bruce, Trent and Nathan attended the meeting in Ottawa, Kansas the weekend of April 13th.

Margaret Ingle visited her mother and stepfather, Thelma and Melvin Bolinger in Carrollton, Missouri the weekend of April 13th.

Justin Dowdy was in St. Louis for a few days for job training.

Michelle Kirby worshiped with us on April 13th. Michelle and her husband Mike live in Indiana, and Michelle is temporarily living in Des Moines for her job. She developed gall

bladder trouble while here and was hospitalized for surgery. Mike came to be with her and attended our services on a Wednesday evening.

On April 14th, in the middle of the afternoon, a fire was discovered in Dr. Greg Ingle's office in Prairie City. All patients were successfully evacuated and the fire was slowed with fire extinguishers. Seven fire departments and about 35 firefighters were involved, as were multiple volunteers to remove patient charts in danger. The clinic is back operating with less than half of the exam rooms and markedly reduced schedules. Several exam rooms sustained water damage and are being completely remodeled. Several of our members work at the clinic, including: Margaret Ingle, Melody Burkman, Charles Ingle, Lisa Fiorentin, Staci Fiorentin, and Amy Ingle.

As a result of a biopsy positive for breast cancer, Melda Ingle will have a lumpectomy on May 2nd. Radiation therapy is anticipated with complete

cure probable. Please pray for her.

James Dowdy, son of Lynette Dowdy, was our visitor on April 16th. He attends college in Ohio.

We congratulate Anna Weaver, who will graduate from Iowa State University on May 9th with a double major in Journalism/Mass Communications and Art and Design. She is currently interning in the Media Relations department for the Iowa Barnstormers.

Our congratulations also go to Bruce Fiorentin and Katrina Cummings, who will graduate from Prairie City-Monroe High School on May 18th.

May Birthdays

13-Anna Weaver
13-Dorothy Van Maanen
15-Lucas Ingle
23-Bob Guthrie
25-Charles Ingle
25-Ethan Clark
26-Tim Burkman
30-Greg Ingle



May Anniversaries

25-Greg & Margaret Ingle