L ghthouse of Iowa

May 2009

My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother. Proverbs 1:8

A few years ago, after my mother moved into a nursing home, I spent a melancholy weekend boxing up her things, trying to decide what should be saved and what should be tossed out, and resisting the urge to donate it all to Goodwill and let them deal with it.

Then, in the big bottom drawer of her old oak wardrobe, I discovered a collection of stuff in a beatup Hudson's department store box; all the childhood gifts I'd given her for Mother's Day. I didn't know whether to cringe or cry.

There was the shamrock key chain with the illegible "Mom" I engraved on it myself, and the Jean Naté Fleur de Versailles bath set I saved my lawn-mowing money to buy at the five-and -ten. She still had the awful blue Wedgewood candy dish

with the poodle head cameo in honor of Pete, our dog. There was the pot holder that said "#1 Cook" (Mom didn't really like to cook); a chintzy picture frame with my fifth grade class shot still in it, taken the day after I got a front tooth knocked out playing tether ball; a snow globe of the Mackinac Bridge from my smart-aleck gag-gift phase (crossing that huge span always made her dizzy); and the cards with my earnest attempts to put my feelings into words. I was amazed I ever passed spelling, let alone penmanship.



Yet what I felt most keenly as I went through those Mother's Day gifts of mine was the joy with which each and every one was received, the delight Mom took in the act of giving, especially when practiced so imperfectly by a little boy. No, Mom never cringed, not even at the sight of the Wedgewood poodle dish, and sometimes, I remember, she did cry. So did I that day over the old Hudson's box. No one will ever love you like your mother, they say, and I had found proof of that.

Lord, You give us mothers for countless reasons. I think the most important is this: They teach us to love.

EDWARD GRINNAN



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 Egdom, (641)932-5686 or Albert Schreck, (641)535-2381

Our condolences go out to the Van Egdom and Smead families on the loss of their great-grandson and greatnephew, Easton Van Egdom.

The Keith Van Egdom family from Dodgeville, Wisconsin spent a couple of days with Clarence and Deloris Van Egdom to attend the funeral of Easton Van Egdom. Keith also spent a couple of nights with them the first part of the month while working in Lancaster, Missouri.

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

We wish to thank everyone that attended our Spring Meeting. It is our prayer that you all received spiritual food from it and enjoyed the fellowship. We sure enjoyed fellowshiping with you!

We all celebrated at the news that Maxine Phipps could be moved back to her home at Courtyard Estates on April 1st. We also celebrated that Neal Warren was able to attend services after his heart surgery. He is still very weak but able to get out a little bit. We are just very thankful to still have him with us. Lillian Bartlett was ill early in April. Risa Schamel was in the hospital overnight for what was thought might be heart attack. Doctors determined that it wasn't her heart and she was able to go back to work. Grace Wilkins has had a cold and cough. Kim Lanc has been here to help with Debbie and Kim are Grace. setting up home help to come in while Debbie is working to take care of Grace. The doctor is

changing Grace's medicines to see if this will improve her pain. Mary Lou Allen hasn't been feeling well. Peg Warren is not doing well. They have changed her medicines and she is not handling it well at all. Please pray for Peg.

Don and Margaret Warren received news that Don's brother, Carson Warren, has had a heart attack.

Mike Warren has been worshiping with us this month. We are very happy to have Mike in our midst.

Yvonne Coe has been traveling. Earl and Mary Lou Allen traveled to Florida to visit their son Bill and family. Don and Kathy James were out of town the weekend of April 26th.

Our condolences go out to Lillian Bartlett and Ron and Jean Van Egdom and their family. Lillian lost a son-in-law this month, and Ron and Jean lost their grandson, Easton Van Egdom, on Sunday, April 19th. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



Dear Loved Ones,

We want to thank everyone for their prayers on Easton Van Egdom's behalf when he was to have surgery. Also thank you for your prayers, calls, cards, e-mails, flowers, attendance at the visitation and for funeral and food for us and our family. We cannot tell you how much your love is appreciated. We know that Easton is in the Great Physician's arms now and free from pain. That is very comforting to us. May God bless you all!

In His Care, Ron and Jean Van Egdom



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

Jack and Bobbi Swisher have returned from their winter residence in Goodland, Florida. It is always good to see them and welcome them home!

Tom Woody spent the weekend of April 11th and 12th with us, speaking on scriptures from II Peter 2:5-7. The seven virtues can strengthen our spiritual well-being. We had pizza before services on

Saturday evening, and a potluck dinner on Sunday.

Paul Negley of Urbandale, Iowa worshiped with us April 12th and 19th.

Faye Stephens and Mary Lou Madden are not able to attend services. Faye remains in her home and Mary Lou is residing at Westridge Quality Care & Rehab in Clarinda. Both ladies are very weak and coping with health issues. Please keep them in your prayers.

May Birthdays

10 – Dustin McCoy

19 - Clint Driftmier

29 – Becky McCoy



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

Megan Whitson and Maddy Hermon attended services with Cassidy Phillips.

We had several visitors who were in the area for the Spring Meeting at Dean Avenue that worshiped with us Sunday, April 11th. They were Kyle and Stephanie Stephens; Randy, Laura, and Amanda Teghtmeyer; and Steve and Cerine Proudfit and family. Pam Deckler's daughter and grand-

children from Nebraska also attended services.

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Tracy and Courtney Penick spent a weekend in Pleasant Hill, Missouri, visiting family and friends.

Zach Wheeler's mom, Kathy, and brother, Rex, attended services and shared potluck with us on Sunday, March 19th.

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

Other visitors this month have been Marvin and Ellen Ellwanger from Winterset and the Weeks family from Saint Mary's.

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

Marty Williamson's mother passed away the first part of April. The funeral was held April 7th in Des Moines.

Marilyn McClurg had hip replacement surgery April 7th.

She is now home and doing well. They were at services later this month. Mark McClurg was back visiting and helping with Vernon.

Mary Alice Fillman fell in a

restaurant while helping celebrate her granddaughter Jessica's birthday. She suffered a broken shoulder and had surgery. She is now home but (Continued on page 4)

Pleasant Hill

(Continued from page 3)

unable to be out yet.

Bev Brady went to Florida with her sister for a few days.

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Betty, Tyler and Ryan Curtis were visiting in the Kansas City area.

David Landes, Carrie, and family were our visitors.

Bob Flack had knee replacement surgery and is coming along very well. He had some problems with his heart and returned to the hospital for a few more days. He is now home and doing better.

Chip, Jennifer, Lily and Annabel Albright spent a weekend in Ft. Scott, Kansas. They were celebrating birthdays.

There was a bridal shower for Alena Brady April 20th. There were quite a few ladies attending and she received many nice things.

Ava Brady was on the sick list.

Ryan and Elijah Ingle were at the Eldon, Missouri meeting, where Ryan was a speaker.

Cody Brady will graduate from Southeast Polk High School. He will be honored at an open house on May 3rd from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at his parent's place. Tyler Brady will graduate from Indianola High School. He will be honored at an open house on May 15th from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at his parent's place.

Blaine and Melanie Deaton have three of their family graduating from college and high school in one week in May.

Matthew Scharff, their son-inlaw, graduates with a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice from St. Ambrose College, Davenport, Iowa. Their son, John Deaton, graduates from Willows High School. Bloomfield. Iowa. Their daughter, Laura Deaton. graduates with a Criminal Justice and Associate of Arts Degree from Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa, Iowa. Grandparents are Don and Wanda Burkman. Congratulations to graduates.

Nora Lea Ingle was given 'Person of the Year' award at a recent Chamber of Commerce banquet in Pleasantville. She had been a feature writer for many years for Marion County News, walking to her assignments the past two years.

Iowa Teen Study (ITBS)

The May study will be May 2 at 5:00 p.m. at the Vandalia church building Hosted by Mike & Joy Cummings

June study: June 6 at Dan & Amy Pritchard's

July study: July 11 at Allen & Teresa Bown's

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.



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Thanks to all for your thoughts, prayers and cards during my surgery and recovery. Thanks for your thoughtfulness for Vernon also.

Our love to you all. Marilyn McClurg



Thank you for all the thoughts, prayers, visits and cards during my surgery and heart problem. It will just take a little time to heal now.

Thank you again. Bob Flack



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

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

Doug and Lisa Fiorentin and family and Marvin and Melda Ingle were in Carrollton, Missouri, on April 5th where they attended a bridal shower for Staci Fiorentin and Jason Miller.

We express our sympathy to Mary Kohlhof at the loss of her father, Perry "Bud" Smith, who passed away April 11th.

Derek Ingle was in Chicago the weekend of April 19th where he attended some classes.

Margaret Ingle was in Carrollton, Missouri, visiting family during the weekend of April 19th.

Lynnette Dowdy reports she passed her tests in Las Vegas and is now a Certified Legal Nurse Consultant. Among our visitors during the past month were Sam Peters, Jason Miller, and James Finney.

Lynnette Dowdy and Brittney Dowdy were visiting family and friends in Indianapolis the weekend of April 26th.

Bob Connett has been having trouble with his lungs and has recently visited a lung specialist. Please pray for him.

Ruth Schell's brother, Wayne Bartlett, has returned home from the hospital after his leg amputation. He is recovering and having therapy. He appreciates all the prayers on his behalf.

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



13 - Justin & Brittney Dowdy

25 - Greg & Margaret Ingle

Another Day

Another day be it sad or gay, God's greatest gift is each new day. Why were we chosen, allowed to stay Upon this earth for another day?

Another chance to see our friends,
Another chance to make amends,
Another chance to see the sun,
Truly we're lucky for we have won another day!

The golden moments quickly fly;
Oh what joy! What a beautiful sky!

Or maybe it's raining, that's lovely too; It helps bring the fruits of the earth to you.

Let's show Him we're thankful for this new day, Spread love and joy along our way, Give alms to the poor and visit the sick, Don't waste one minute, life goes so quick.

Now that the shadows of night are falling
And the birds to their mates have ceased their calling,
Might it not be appropriate to say
Thank you, dear Lord, just for this day?

Edith Feeley Denend

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