



# Lighthouse of Iowa

*Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ*

May 2025

## Evangelist Jay Graham's Spring 2025 Report

Dear brothers and sisters,

Greetings in Jesus' name. I trust this finds you well in His Grace and Comfort. I am writing from Chama, NM. I met with them last evening, and I hope to meet with them this coming Lord's Day. It continues to be dry throughout America's Great South west. Flagstaff received a third of our normal (and hoped-for) snow fall, and Chama has received much less than they need. This upcoming fire season will be challenging. May God provide some moisture.

We have fully settled into our new place the Lord provided for us. We moved in last Nov. 1st. We like the small-town environment of Williams, and we love the house with lots of square footage. Our practically daily commutes into Flagstaff require a bit more driving, but that will lessen at the end of Jayce's school year.

**I am continuing to work with the six congregations in this area regularly.** This includes the churches at

1. Williams, AZ,
2. Huachuca City, AZ,
3. Pima, AZ,
4. Chama, NM,
5. White Rock, NM and
6. Long Beach, CA.

The Lord continues to bless these congregations. The brothers and sisters at Williams very much like that we live within a mile of the building. The church at Huachuca City has had some growth of 2 brothers and 1 sister to add to the 3 saints who have been faithful for years. The church at Pima continues to show much faith. They continue to meet in Dave & Janet Gentry's home. Bryan Leitner continues with his cancer treatments.

The church at Chama has a few more in attendance due to the warmer weather as well as some from the area who have been attending regularly. During the winter months their numbers are smaller much like at Williams. The church at White Rock continues to prosper, though I am not with them as much as with the others. I do plan to be with them next month. And the congregation at Long Beach continues to prosper. They are the only church that has elders that I work with in the southwest.

Earlier this year, I was blessed to travel east to visit a few congregations. **I was with the Clifffield, VA church for a weekend.** I was with the Dean Ave. congregation in Des Moines, IA for the next weekend.

**I met with my home congregation at Prince Rd. in Alton, IL** for a Wednesday evening. (You probably heard they had two new elders, and

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two new deacons appointed earlier this year. We rejoiced at that!)

**I was also blessed to be with the Chapel Glen congregation in Indianapolis, IN for a weekend.** I then headed back to the southwest for home. The Lord blessed me with an edifying and safe journey!

While I was in the east it was a blessing for the congregations in AZ (and for me) to have Dan Huff make his annual visit to the churches. He comes every spring, which allows me to be in the east without feeling too much guilt over my absence. Thank you, Dan.

I also neglected to mention in my last report that Louis Garbi was able to visit the AZ churches last October. While he was in the Williams area he stayed with Peter Espitia.

This was the first time Peter had housed a visiting brother. I am confident both he and Louis were blessed. Louis has been visiting me every Autumn for quite a few years now!

Due to our move, Louis was able to take my place at the Chama congregation for a few days. Thank you, Louis! I know all the congregations appreciated both Louis and Dan's visits!

I have been continuing to study with Corbin Tutterow virtually about two times each

month. His elders (who are also mine) asked me to study with Corbin about the work of an evangelist. Corbin has expressed an interest in learning more about the work.

**After studying with Trent Fiorentin of the Vandalia, IA for 2.5 years we concluded our studies.** You may have heard Trent was sent out as an evangelist last month! May the Lord bless him in his work.

I continue to provide articles for several congregations. I am thankful for that opportunity.

As you can see, I try to stay busy in the Lord's kingdom among His churches. I cannot do this without your continuing support and prayers. Thank you for that! May God continue to bless and keep you as you labor in your portion of His vineyard, and may He continue to bless you for your interest in evangelism both local and abroad.

Love,

Jay

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## Chariton

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** Call for information.

**For information call:** Albert Schreck (641) 535-2381 or Brian Schreck (641) 203-2137

- Quiet month in Chariton.



### May Birthdays

☆ None

### May Anniversaries

☆ None

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## Dean Avenue

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 9:30 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m.

**Location:** 2907 Dean Ave., Des Moines, Iowa / P.O. Box 57398, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

**For information call:** John McNeece (515) 263-9428

- Jake McClung met with us on a Sunday and gave us very good lessons. Several of us went out to eat together afterwards.
- Linda Head had two kidney stones crushed. Everything went well.
- Maxine Higgins had tubes put in her ears and is doing well.
- Roberta Milinsky is on a trip through Europe.
- Peg Warren has a spot on her kidney. She will have a scan to check it again in four months.

- Illness: Don James, John McNeece, Peg Warren, Parker Thatcher and Head family.

### May Birthdays

☆ 24 Paxon Boozell

☆ 26 Linda Head

☆ 30 Parker Thatcher

### May Anniversaries

☆ None

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## Fairview

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** 1001 S. 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Clarinda, Iowa 51632

- **NOTICE:** I was just informed that this congregation is no longer meeting. Fairview (Clarinda) will be removed from the *Lighthouse* next month.

☞ REST IN PEACE ☞

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# Martensdale

**Meeting Times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m. & Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.  
**Location:** 10985 44th Lane, Prole, Iowa (1.5 miles east of Martensdale, IA on Hwy. 92)  
**Website:** [martensdalechurchofchrist.com](http://martensdalechurchofchrist.com)  
**For information call:** Duane Proudfit (515) 961-4470 or Mike Penick (515) 681-0279

- Several of our members attended the VBS at the Vandalia Church of Christ on April 5 & 6. They included Zach, Jenna, Malachi, Finneas & Silas Wheeler; Alena, Brenna, Theron, Hugh & Keturah Ingle; Courtney, Millie & Dawson Teghtmeyer; and Tracy Penick.
- Several of our members attended the Pleasant Hill Church of Christ Young People's meeting on April 19 & 20. They included Rodney, Alena, Brenna, Theron, Hugh & Keturah Ingle; Zach, Jenna, Malachi, Finneas & Silas Wheeler; and Ethan, Megan & Eliza Schreck.
- Trent, Leah, Eva and Josie Fiorentin and Sue Schreck met with us on Sunday, April 27th. Trent gave a good sermon on the 6 C's in God's plan. The 6 C's were

Creation; Corruption; Catastrophe; Christ; Cross and Consummation..

## May Birthdays

- ☆ Theron Ingle - May 6
- ☆ Jenna Wheeler - May 14
- ☆ Allen Bown - May 27

## May Anniversaries

- ☆ Rodney & Alena Ingle - May 9
  - ☆ Drew & Courtney Teghtmeyer - May 21
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# Pleasant Hill

**Meeting Times:** Sundays: 9:30 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 5091 E. University, Pleasant Hill, Iowa  
**Website:** [pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org](http://pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org)  
**Contacts:** Mike Warner 515-967-4529 / Marty Williamson 515-556-2394 / Marc Hermon 515- 554-3567



- All glory to God! In April we were incredibly blessed to welcome Brother Michael Eldridge for a young people's meeting that brought together over 65 zealous Christians, many from out of state! What an amazing opportunity for our youth to come together, lift their voices, and grow in their understanding of glorifying God through a cappella worship. What a joy to witness this group grow in friendship and "Behold Our God!"
- Saturday was filled with joyful singing and learning, which culminated in an inspiring "worship and praise" service on Sunday. New songs learned just the day before exalted our Savior and sounded absolutely beautiful. Our young men stepped up to lead prayers, read scripture, and guide the congregation in song. Michael closed the service with a stirring exhortation on spiritual growth—challenging us to strive for maturity/perfection in our faith.
- We are deeply grateful for the encouragement, inspiration, and heartfelt teaching Michael brought to our congregation and youth.

- We also want to express sincere appreciation to everyone who made this weekend so special—those who attended, the parents who brought carloads of teens, the gracious hosts who opened their homes, and the many hands who prepared and served delicious meals. Your generosity and hospitality helped make this weekend truly special.
- A final heartfelt thank you to our Iowa Traveling Bible Study (ITBS) leaders, Alan and Marc, for their vision of this meeting and months of dedicated work to make it happen! We are incredibly thankful for the deep bond of friendships in God's kingdom! Save the Date!

#### Announcements:

- This month, we welcomed Chelsea Boyd as a member of the Pleasant Hill congregation family in Christ. Chelsea is married to Joshua, and they have a son named Maddox. We are joyful that all three have faithfully been attending worship services at the Pleasant Hill congregation!

- Congratulations to Ava Brady! She will be graduating from Southeast Polk High School this month!
- *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.* — Psalm 139:14

- Hallelujah! Let's celebrate with Ayden and Madison Twaddell, along with proud big brother Theo and sister Ginny!



- Arlington "Arlo" Christopher Twaddell arrived safely on Monday, April 7, at 7:43 a.m., weighing 7 lbs. 2 oz and measuring 19.5 inches long. We praise God for Arlo's healthy arrival and continue to lift prayers for Maddy's healing and recovery following her C-section.

- Praise the Lord-- the Thorson family, God willing, will welcome a new baby in September. We join this sweet family in praise for His indescribable gifts! *"For this child I prayed!"* — 1 Samuel 1:27

**Women in The Word:**

*May 17: 8:40 a.m. - Breakfast  
Church Basement  
Workshop Lesson: 9 a.m.  
CPR & First Aid  
Training Basics,  
Alex Needham  
Devotional: 10:15 a.m.  
A Faithful Helpmate,  
Ryane Needham*

Our next Women in the Word gathering is coming up on Saturday, May 17, at 9 a.m. We're thrilled to welcome Alex Needham, who will lead us in a special session on CPR and First Aid Training Basics— and men are invited to

join us for this important workshop!

Following the training, Ryane Needham will share a devotional on being a faithful helpmate. We're so grateful to the Needhams for generously offering their time and talents. This promises to be a meaningful afternoon together!

**Apples of Gold - Prov. 25:11**

**IOWA TRAVELING BIBLE STUDY**

**Save the Date!**

**Saturday, May 31, 4-8 p.m.**

**Hosts: Destry & Charity Klein**  
**506 E Marion St**  
**Monroe, IA 50170**

**Dinner will be provided. Kids can bring sides & desserts. Also, please bring your lawn chair since the study & fellowship will be outdoors!**  
**-Don't forget your Bible-**

**Teachers: Alan Klein & Marc Hermon**

**ITBS**

Our next Iowa Traveling Bible Study gathering, God willing, is on May at Destry and Charity Klein's home. Bible students can bring a lawn chair, side and dessert to share. Alan will lead the group on "Apples of Gold!" from Proverbs 25.

**May Birthdays**

- ☆ Fred Brady – 5/2
- ☆ Chelsea Boyd – 5/5
- ☆ Lisa Williamson – 5/10
- ☆ Ava Brady – 5/16
- ☆ Isaac, Marcus Needham – 5/18
- ☆ Alivia Pritchard – 5/19
- ☆ Kinnick Ingle – 5/27
- ☆ Maisie Pritchard – 5/27
- ☆ Shirley Warner – 5/29

**May Anniversaries**

- ☆ Dan & Amy Pritchard – 5/6
- ☆ Steve & Nancy Brady - 5/25

# Vandalia

**Meeting Times :** Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday: 7:00 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) 238-3316

**Website:** <https://vandaliacoc.com>

- **Our June Meeting is a week earlier than usual---join us on June 7-8 for uplifting lessons and fellowship.**
- April 5 and 6 was our weekend VBS. The adult lessons on Genesis were excellent and the children enjoyed and learned from their class lessons on the 7 Days of Creation.
- Several of our group attended the weekend Young People's Meeting with Michael Eldridge. It was an amazing opportunity for the youth to come together, fellowship, worship, and sing praises to our Lord.
- Sarah Clark continues with her chemo treatments---prayers are appreciated.
- Visitors this month were: David and Mary Wilson and Drake; Griffin and Hailey Mefford.
- For several months, sisters of the group enjoyed having a secret sister and showing love in various ways. April 27, we enjoyed a potato bar and soup luncheon together and revealed who our secret sister had been --- lots of fun. ..



## May Birthdays

- ☆ 8 Easton Klein
- ☆ 15 Lucas Ingle
- ☆ 23 Caleb Ingle
- ☆ 24 Erica Fiorentin
- ☆ 25 Charles Ingle
- ☆ 25 Micah Heartsill
- ☆ 25 Ethan Clark
- ☆ 26 Tim Burkman
- ☆ 28 Morgan Burkman
- ☆ 30 Greg Ingle

## May Anniversaries

- ☆ 9 Lucas & Shelby Ingle
- ☆ 13 Justin & Brittney Dowdy
- ☆ 15 Alan & Pam Skinner
- ☆ 16 Jason & Staci Miller
- ☆ 25 Greg & Margaret Ingle
- ☆ 28 Bill & Bonnie Harkins

# May

The month of May gets its name from the Latin word "Mayis," which some believe is derived from "aperire" meaning "to open," referencing the opening of buds and flowers in spring, while others suggest a connection to the Greek goddess Aphrodite.



## Jalapeño-Cheddar Scones

*This version has just five ingredients, an easy method.*

### Before You Begin

Work the dough as little as possible, just until it comes together..

### Gather Your Ingredients

#### Scones

- 3 cups (15 ounces/425 grams) all-purpose flour
- 12 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into ½-inch pieces and chilled, divided
- ¼ cup (1¾ ounces/50 grams) sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1¼ teaspoons table salt
- 6 ounces (170 grams) extra-sharp cheddar cheese, cut into ½-inch pieces
- ½ cup jarred sliced jalapeños, drained and chopped
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 large egg plus 1 large yolk

#### Honey Butter

- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 1½ tablespoons honey



## Instructions

### FOR THE SCONES:

- 1.) Line rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper. Combine flour, 6 tablespoons butter, sugar, baking powder, and salt in food processor and process until butter is fully incorporated, about 15 seconds. Add cheddar and remaining 6 tablespoons butter and pulse until cheddar and butter are reduced to pea-size pieces, 10 to 12 pulses. Transfer mixture to large bowl. Stir in jalapeños until coated with flour mixture.
- 2.) Beat milk and egg and yolk together in separate bowl. Make well in center of flour mixture and pour in milk mixture. Gently stir mixture with rubber spatula, scraping from edges of bowl and folding inward, until very shaggy dough forms and some bits of dry flour remain. Do not overmix.
- 3.) Turn out dough onto well-floured counter and knead briefly until dough just comes together, about 3 turns. Using your floured hands and bench scraper, shape dough into 15 by 3-inch rectangle with long side parallel to edge of counter, dusting with extra flour if it begins to stick.
- 4.) Using knife or bench scraper, cut dough crosswise into 6 equal rectangles. Cut each rectangle diagonally into 2 triangles (you should have 12 scones total). Transfer scones to prepared sheet, spacing about 1 inch apart. Cover sheet with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes or up to 24 hours. Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 425 degrees.

### FOR THE HONEY BUTTER:

- 1.) Meanwhile, combine melted butter and honey in small bowl.
- 2.) Uncover scones and bake until lightly golden on top, 15 to 17 minutes, rotating sheet halfway through baking. Remove scones from oven and brush tops with honey butter. Return scones to oven and continue to bake until golden brown on top, 3 to 5 minutes longer. Transfer scones to wire rack and let cool for at least 10 minutes before serving.

By Amanda Luchtel – America's Test Kitchen

<https://www.americastestkitchen.com/recipes/14277-jalapeno-cheddar-scones>

## Quotes

*"A dead thing can go with the stream,  
but only a living thing can go against it."*

~ G.K. Chesterton

(29 May 1874 – 14 June 1936)

English author, philosopher, Christian apologist

## *A unique and dark condemnation*

## Anath·e·ma

ə-'na-thə-mə

**Definition:** a: a ban or curse solemnly pronounced by ecclesiastical authority and accompanied by excommunication

b: the denunciation of something as accursed

c: : a vigorous denunciation : curse

*from Ecclesiastical Greek anathema "a thing accursed."*