

Visit Your House of Worship

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

FROM FULL GOSPEL CHURCH "A Pastor's Prayer"

The National Day of Prayer originally was set up to be observed during the noon hour and was an opportunity for Christians to deny the flesh, fast a meal and pray for this nation.

Often when the prophets of God prayed for the nation of Israel they started with praise followed up with confession of sin then petitioned God for His mercy and guidance. That is the correct order in which we are to come to God and pray for this nation.

About ten years ago I had the privilege to meet and pray for a wonderful man of God, Pastor Joe Wright. Just a few years ago he opened up the new session of the Kansas Senate with a very heartfelt Holy Spirit led prayer.

His prayer was read on Commentator Paul Harvey's "The Rest of the Story" and received one of the largest responses he ever had on one of his programs. Within six weeks Central Christian Church where Rev. Wright was pastor, logged more than 5,000 phone calls with only 47 negative responses. The church is now receiving international requests for copies of this prayer from places such as India, Africa and Korea.

When Pastor Wright started this prayer everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard. "Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask Your forgiveness and to seek Your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says 'Woe to those who call evil

good' but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values. We have ridiculed the absolute truth of Your Word and called it pluralism. We have worshipped other gods and called it multiculturalism. We have endorsed perversion and called it alternative lifestyle. We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery. We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. We have killed our unborn and called it choice. We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable. We have neglected to discipline our children and called it self-esteem. We have abused power and called it politics. We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it ambition. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment. Search us, O God, and know our hearts today, cleanse us from every sin and set us free... In the Name of Jesus Christ, Amen."

We live in a wonderful county and most certainly it is an excellent place to raise a family, to work and worship the Lord. However we must not look at this area through rose-colored glasses. Men of God are becoming concerned for we are seeing the curses of Deuteronomy 28 proclaimed on those who disobey God's Word falling upon this area as well as the rest of this United States of America. Only God can bring true repentance and truly turn mankind to the Lord. Only prayer and fasting can bring a true spiritual awakening.

A NEW YOU

"If you don't like it, change it" appears to be the motto of our times. Yet, television ads, bestselling books, "extreme makeovers" and "promising" plastic surgeons cannot change one's spirit...at any price.

Interestingly enough, transforming one's spirit costs nothing at all. If you are sad within yourself, if the sparkle goes out of you eyes, how can you project a positive impression? In the collection, Words of Wisdom, Perry Ellis, the world renowned fashion designer, said "Fashion designers can't make anybody look good...looking good is feeling good and feeling good is being at peace with yourself."

Are you at peace with yourself? Have you looked within? If the answer is no, give God first chance in your life. Psalm 96:6 directs us... "Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary." Won't you worship this week? Let God create a new you.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Ephesians 2:11-22	Ephesians 3:1-13	Psalms 72	Ephesians 3:14-21	Ephesians 4:1-16	Ephesians 4:17-5:2	Ephesians 5:3-20

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

Edwin and Miriam Slipke's family held their Christmas on Dec. 20. Those present were Linda and Ron Baumberger, Heather and Kendra, Salina; Raymond and Bonita Slipke and family, Lenora; William and Michelle Slipke and family, Hoxie; Alan and Phyllis Slipke, Topeka; Michael and Kathy Slipke, Sara, Downs; Cheryl and Ryan Goheen, Pratt; Crystal Slipke and Brady Cline, Manhattan; Marvin and Mary Wudtke, Norton. Edwin and Miriam Slipke ate Christmas dinner with Marvin and Mary Wudtke.

Family coming to the home of Russ and Marcia Aumiller and Josh Vahling on Christmas Eve were Jeff and Kathleen Vahling, Allison, Sidney, Hays, and Missy and Nicole Vahling and Jeremy Rumback, Lenora.

On Christmas Eve Jerry and Carol Nickelson, Hill City and Eric Nickelson, Salina, came to Jean Nickelson's home and attended Christmas Eve Mass with her. Mrs. Nickelson returned home with them and ate Christmas dinner at Jerry's. On Friday, family came, including Gayle and Neil Brandyberry, Marla and Kyle, Howells, Neb.; Nick Brandyberry, Stephanie and Nate, Phillipsburg; Neil and Thelma Nickelson, Victoria.

Family coming home at Alfred and Betty Otter's home were Mike Otter, Cimmarron; Will and Tina Ritter, Allyson, Olathe; Tom Otter, DeSoto; Mark and Sheila Otter and family, Ulysses; Jim and Jolene Moss and family, Jewell; Karl Otter, Great Bend; Charles and Jeni Otter and family, Salina.

Dec. 22, Frank and Ceena Owens, Franklin and Alyssa, Galveston, Texas, arrived at the home of her parents Gary and Bertsie Renee Bruinekool. Family coming for Christmas Eve at the home of Marion and Lorraine Long were Frank and Lettie Long and family, St. Elizabeth, Mo.; Irene Schieferecke, McPherson; and Roger and JoAnn Long, New Almelo. On Christmas Day they all went to Grinnell to the home of Gerry and Mark Baalmann. Others joining them were Joe and Rose Ann Long, Joey Tillary, Leawood; Justin and Michelle Baalmann, Maggie, Hays; Mandy Baalmann, Overland Park; Gary and Carolyn Long, Traci, Hill City; Adam Long, Hays; Tom and Jan Long, Hays; Leonard and Joan

Long, Zack and Alaina, Logan. Joe Schieferecke joined the group in the afternoon.

Coming to New Almelo on Dec. 27 were Steve and Jan Richards and Matt, Sandia Park, N.M. They visited her mother at the Andbe Home and other relatives in the area.

Family home for Christmas at the Alfred and Dorothy Mindrup home were David and Arleen Mindrup and family, Olathe.

On Dec. 20, Ranel and Kevin Becker, Bridget and Brandon, Spring, Texas, came to spend Christmas with her parents Deacon Stan and Sonya Chapin at New Almelo. Their son, Roth Chapin, Hays, spent Christmas with them also.

Marion and Lorraine Long's grandchildren have enlisted in the Air Force. Jennifer Long, St. Elizabeth, Mo., will go to San Antonio in February to begin her training. Jeffery Long is a senior at St. Elizabeth and will begin his training in July.

Christmas was celebrated Dec. 21 at the John and Becky Linden farm home. Those attending along with Brett and Brian were: Doris Linden, Norton; Frank and Sheryl Linden, Brandon and Emily, Goodland; Kevin, Rosella and Kylie Ryser, Sharon Springs; and Father Vincent Thu Laing, Norton.

On Christmas Eve at the home of George and Vickie Gassmann a meal and gift opening was celebrated. Those present were Connie Gassmann, Randy and Beth Gassmann, Johnathan, William, New Almelo; West, Alice, and Maggie James, Ellis; Chuck and Jackie Wright, Lenora. On Christmas Day, all but Chuck and Jackie Wright celebrated the day with Maggie Gassmann at Park.

Funeral services were held Jan. 2 at St. Joseph Church in New Almelo for Betty Ann Johnson, wife of Wilber Johnson. Other survivors include eight children, Gloria Strother, New Port Richey, Fla.; Cathy Self, Chuckey, Tenn.; Jeanne Pharis, Norton; Rita Conrad, Stanton, Neb.; Edwin Johnson, Edward Johnson, Chris Johnson, Lenora; and Charles Johnson, New Almelo; two brothers, Julius Bieker and Donald Bieker, Hoxie; 11 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, two brothers, one son, Gerald Johnson and one stillborn son.

PRAIRIE VIEW

By VIVIAN JANSONIUS

Jill Erickson of Orange City, Iowa, visited during Christmas vacation at the home of her parents, Keith and Delores Erickson, and with other relatives.

Jennifer Jansonius of Lenexa visited at the home of her father, Rodney Jansonius, and grandmother, Hazel Jansonius, during Christmas vacation.

Vivian Jansonius went to Phillipsburg Tuesday to do some business and see some of her family. On visiting Anita and Eddy De Boer, she met her granddaughter, Tammy and Lester Slayton, Briana and Brooke of Eagar, Ariz., who had come to spend Christmas with her family. Everyone went out to dinner at the Chicken Inn.

Sam and Donna Stuteville returned home Sunday evening from visiting his mother, Margaret Stuteville in Stilwell, Larry and Joy Feris in Gardner, and other relatives and friends in eastern Kansas.

Jeff and Nicki Nesvara of North Plate were here during Christmas vacation visiting at the home of Nicki's parents, Bill and Diana Greving, and other relatives and friends.

Jim and Kayle Kreller, Morgan and Jordan, of Phillipsburg entertained to dinner on Christmas Day Kurtis and Jodi Eolfg, Zach, Arron and Sktler of Hays; John and Sallie Jansonius, Fairie Gaines, Opal Filbrick and Mitch Blair, all of Phillipsburg, and Vivian Jansonius of Prairie View.

Hazel Jansonius entertained for dinner on Christmas Day Jacob Jansonius, Golden, Colo.; Jennifer Jansonius, Lenexa; LeWayne and Marsha Jansonius, Stilwell; Joni Jansonius, Manhattan; Rodney Jansonius, William D. and Grada Jansonius, Willard and Cleo, Prairie View.

Jim and Makayla Kats and four sons entertained to dinner on Christmas Day Stanley and Donna Kats, Mark and Anissa Kats and Deb Thompson, Jessica, Candace and Shyanne.

Library Board Meeting

The Sunshine City Library board met Monday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. Danny and Carol Short, Dian Tien, Darline Brown, Anne Jansonius and Gloria DeWitt were present. Secretary Gloria DeWitt read the November minutes. Carol Short gave treasurer's report.

In other business, the board:

- Will advertise for more school memorabilia for display case.
- Heard that the engraving for a memorial plaque is finished.
- Learned that fall story hour is over. Winter story hour begins Thursday.
- Discussed and approved switching Internet service to Lightning Jack. This will eliminate need for second phone line, and will provide continuous access.
- Will wait to see if Libra grant comes through before deciding what to do with gift for children's department.
- Heard from Carol and Danny Short on a meeting they attended in Kensington, which compared our library with others, showing differences in library salaries and city contributions. Copies are available from board members.
- Viewed the cleaning schedule for next year.
- Discussed having a Kid-Link speaker after first of the year as a joint project with a church group.
- Worked on the 2004 budget, which will be submitted to the city.
- Filled out a system grant questionnaire.
- Received new volunteer schedules from. These can be picked up at library.