

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

THE ENEMY CONQUERED — BY RICK ROSTEK, PASTOR, IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Death grabs the headlines. Just last week, we heard or read of two bombings in Iraq that killed almost 50 people, a car accident that took the lives of three women near Goodland, and the brutal murder of Paul Johnson in Saudi Arabia. Sure, some of the newspapers reported births, but they were hard to find and certainly not on the front page. Births are expected and mundane, especially here in the

United States. Birth is just a normal part of life. But death is unexpected. When young people die, we wonder about the life they might have had. And even when someone dies after a full life, death is not welcome. Death snuffs out life and leaves us with empty and lonely hearts.

Death gets the headlines because it's the enemy. It was not part of God's creation but came through Satan's deception and Adam and Eve's disobedience. Their sin has been passed down to us and, as St. Paul says, the wages of sin is death. We all face it.

In the Old Testament, the prophet Elijah once raised a

widow's son back to life by laying his body on the lifeless boy and praying to God. The life returned to the boy and the mother's sorrow was turned to joy. The prophet Elijah was paving the way for a greater prophet, Jesus Christ. Jesus would also raise people from the dead, but these were just precursors to His own resurrection. While those who were raised from the dead would die again,

when Jesus walked out of the tomb, death had no hold on him anymore.

For those with faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus, there is hope of life everlasting. Jesus has paid the price for sin. Those with faith in Him have forgiveness and life everlasting! Though death may come in this world, believers will live forever with Christ. The trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised — imperishable and immortal!

In this world, death gets the headlines. But by faith in Christ, life gets the last word. The enemy has been conquered!

You and Me Against the World

This title to a popular song shares more than a romantic sentiment. Leo Tolstoy, in a letter to his son, wrote, "The goal of our life should not be to find joy in marriage, but to bring more love and truth into the world. We marry to assist each other in this task. The highest calling is that of the man who has dedicated his life to serving God and doing good, and who unites with a woman in order to further that purpose."

Of course, Mr. Tolstoy did not mean we should not be happy with our mate. Happiness finds a couple when they unite as one spirit in God's service. In the marriage vows themselves, we hear "...and the two shall be as one."

Had God felt that Adam could have accomplished his mission on earth alone, He would not have given him Eve as a helpmate. The Creator chose to unite the two. "It is not good that man should be alone. I will make him a helper fit for him." (Genesis 2:18)

In this month of happy unions, may you remember that God makes a good marriage great. Worship together and stay together. May God Bless!



SUNDAY Acts 16:1-15	MONDAY Acts 16:16-40	TUESDAY Acts 17:1-15	WEDNESDAY Acts 17:16-34	THURSDAY Acts 18:1-17	FRIDAY Acts 18:18-28	SATURDAY Acts 19:1-20
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

Funeral services were held June 4 for Rita Boltz at St. Joseph Church with Father Vincent Thu Laing officiating and Deacon Stan Chapis assisting. Burial was in the St. Joseph Cemetery. She was born Aug. 23, 1927, in Jennings to Raymond and Regina (Austerman) Slipke. She graduated from Jennings High School. On June 4, 1948 she married William Boltz. They moved to Denver. Several years ago she moved to Norton. She was preceded in death by her husband, a son, Kenneth, and a sister, Erma Travis. Survivors include a daughter, Iris Boltz, Denver; a brother, Edwin Slipke, New Almelo; and a sister, Mary Wudtke, Norton.

On June 5 Jeremy Rumback and Melissa Vahling celebrated the sacrament of marriage at St. Joseph Church with Father Vincent Thu Laing officiating. Parents of the couple are Ron and Paula Rumback, Oakley, and Russ and Marcia Vahling, New Almelo, and the late William Vahling. Attendants were: Kathleen Vahling, Todd Losey, Arielle Ficken, Terry Peterson, LaShara Hunt, Cale Wilson, flower girl, Nicole Vahling and ring bearer, Kade Peterson.

On June 6, Father Joe Scheetz celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 4 p.m. Nineteen fellow priests helped celebrate. His brother, Father Dan Scheetz, read the gospel. Bishop George Fitzsimons spoke after Father Joe's homily. Jim Ninemire was the lector. The family provided the music. A dinner was served in the Parish Hall. Many former parishoners came to help him celebrate. Atwood Parish presented him with a picture of the parish including their signatures. A picture display of his life was enjoyed by all.

Alfred and Betty Otter spent several days in Olathe helping with the new grandson. While

there, they visited their son, Tom, in De Soto. On the way home they were able to attend their granddaughter, Courtney Moss' ballgame. Mike and Mark Otter helped their dad on Saturday.

The family of Marion and Lorraine Long held their annual camp-out reunion at Webster State Park May 29 through June 5. Several families were there all week, while others came during the week and all gathered on Saturday, the final day. Those attending were: Kenny and Dot Long, Nixa, Mo.; Roger and JoAnn Long, New Almelo; Joe and Rose Ann Long, Leawood; Christy Long, Beth and Joey Tillery, Leawood; Tom and Jan Long, Hays; Bill and Rita Barker, Hays; Brian and Lori Schiefen and Katlyn, Overland Park; Nicholas and Tana Christensen and Laurel, Phillipsburg; Rusty and Kelly Leonard and Izzac, Great Bend; Floyd and Karen Long and Sammy, Kimball, Neb.; Tom Long and Adriane Anderson, Goodland; Irene Schieferecke, McPherson; Joe and Shandell Schieferecke, Ashton and Lakyn, McPherson; Doyle and Imogene McDougal and Sheila, Lexington, Neb.; Marshall and Sam Siruta, Megan and Jordan, Goodland; Frank and Letty Long, Jason, Jeffery and Jonathon and a friend, St. Elizabeth, Mo.; Fred and Carol Long, Andy and Katy, Independence; Gary and Carolyn Long and Traci, Hill City; Adam Long, Hays; Leonard and Joan Long, Zach and Alaina, Logan; Mark and Gerry Baalman, Grinnell; Justin and Michelle Baalman and Maggie, Hays; Maggie Baalman and Chad Baker, Kansas City.

Calling on Saturday afternoon were Bob and Donna McClelland, Almena, and Dee and Rea Magers, Norcat. Roger and JoAnn Long and Bill and Rita Barker Drove Marion and Lorraine down several evenings for supper and for the Saturday get-together.

LYLE NEWS

By DEANNA SUMNER

We have finally had some rain, about two inches or so!

Kathy Brashers came Tuesday evening, fixed supper and spent the night with the Helms.

Wednesday afternoon at the Helms, in Colby, Deb, Rebecca, Jacob, Matthew and Timothy Helm brought the mail and had supper. Grandpa John and Timothy had a great time putting a jigsaw puzzle together.

On Friday, Jim Helm, Danbury, stayed with his parents until Laurie Helm, St. Louis, Mo., arrived so that Ceanne and Martin Rinehart could take their granddaughter, Carolyn Rose, back to Colorado.

On Saturday, Royce and Lola Cook spent the afternoon with the Helms. The Helms love the visits from family and friends. It makes the days go by faster.

Last Sunday, Kathy Van Meter, Toots Magers and Veda Wood went to see Pat Schwab at Cedar Living Center in Oberlin. Following, they went to the "Community Gospel Show" at the Good Samaritan Center put together by Ron Temple and performed by some of the community people. Afterwards they visited Marguerite Fullerton.

Tuesday was United Methodist Women. Those present were Joyce Sumner, Toots Magers, June Jolly and Kathy Van Meter. It was Potluck Program and Joyce Sumner was the hostess. They sewed the rest of the day. Mrs Jackie Porter of Norton came out to help sew.

Thursday, Rea and Dee Magers came and took Toots to Beaver City, Neb., to visit Dwight and Ruth Vise. Karla Clason was there and they all had lunch at the Senior Center.

Thursday evening, Kathy and Toots went to Oberlin and danced to the Vic Mowry Band at Cedar Living Center. While there Toots visited with Pat Schwab.

Friday night Kathy and Toots played cards in Norcat.

Saturday, Veda, Toots and Kathy went to Oberlin for Roger and Angie Wilson's 50th anniversary party and visited Marguerite Fullerton and with John and Carol Moyer. They came back to Norcat and ate at the County Line Cafe.

Last Thursday and Friday, June Jolly went to Hastings, to be with her daughter, Linda, who had surgery on her face to remove a lump. (We pray everything will be okay!)

ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE

Meghan Wassinger of Ness City came last Friday morning, June 11, to spend a few hours visiting her grandmother, Rita Bieber at Calvert. She returned home that afternoon.

Sunday afternoon visitors of Esther Marble were Bryce Marble and Bill Godfrey.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Malcolm and Carrie Malcolm went to Norton Sunday to visit Mabel Malcolm at Whispering Pines.

Christy and Aaron Taylor of Grainfield hosted a combined birthday and Father's Day dinner Sunday, June 20. The guests were Bill Eckhart, Norton; Grace Reeves, Almena; and Dave and Sheryl Taylor of Pasco, Kan. Haley and Andrew Taylor's birthdays were June 19 and 21 and Bill Eckhart, Dave Taylor and Aaron Taylor are fathers. Christy had prepared a delicious meal with a beautifully decorated cake honoring them.

The paper you read for the news you need!

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

