

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Kathy Aeillo, Pastor Almena, Clayton, and Norcatat United Methodist Churches

The first eight verses of Psalm 95 are words of great praise to God, the Creator. The palmist tells us to sing to the Lord and encourages us to make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! The author says we should give praise and thanks to God and starts listing some of the reasons why we should do that.

Every time we wake up and take that first deep breath of the day we should give thanks and praise to God without anyone having to tell us why. The new day, the breath we take, our very lives, are all gifts from a great and glorious God who loves us. And, as if that weren't reason enough, we can be grateful for having a bed to sleep in, food to eat and a furnace to keep us warm. The list goes on and on and I haven't even mentioned things like clean water and God's wonderful earth and our families and friends.

This time of year can sometimes get us down. The weather tends to be cold, skies can be gloomy and we're start-

ing to hope for signs of spring, That very hope should tell us something. God designed the universe in such a way that we know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that spring follows winter, that air will warm and trees will bud and days will grow longer. We know the One we can always count on is still in control.

That being said, stop making excuses for why you're not going over to God's house for worship. Stop saying it's too cold or you'd rather sleep in on Sunday mornings. I accept there are some legitimate reasons for not being there but, for most of us, most of the time, the excuses are pretty feeble.

Understand that every good thing in your life, just like in mine, is a gift of God. Spend an hour in Christian fellowship giving praise and glory to God for all that you have and all that you are and all you hope to be. The Lord our God is always available and eager for us to be in God's presence.

♥♥♥ A Test of Time



Some things just take time. Love takes time. Though "love at first sight" is touted to be true by some, more couples may remember a courtship that did not always go smoothly. They may speak of periods in which they actually renounced the relationship, only to reunite at a later date realizing all the more what they had. Love that is tested is often deeper and stronger.

Love can be compared to fruit as it ripens on the vine in summertime. Along with the warmth of sunny days, the fruit sways, precariously at times, in summer storms, maybe even sustaining an occasional bruise. Yet, it is only after "hanging on" through those uncertain times that the fruit becomes mature...sweet, mellow, and sure to please the palate.

Most importantly, you must be connected by God's Holy Spirit for your love to fully flourish. What qualities do you desire in your relationship? Galatians 5:22 tells us, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control..."

Won't you take the time to worship with your Valentine? Your love will grow stronger each week as you visit God in His House or Synagogue.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Matthew 4:1-11	Psalms 91	2 Chronicles 1:1-13	2 Chronicles 5:2-6:11	2 Chronicles 6:12-42	2 Chronicles 7:1-10	Hebrews 4:14-5:10

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS
Guests of Esther Miller for the Norcatat Fireman pizza fund raiser were Gary and Annette Miller and Merle Shirley Oberlin. Mail count will start Friday, Feb. 18, through the middle of March.

This summer the highway department will come to re-seal the highway into Norcatat. The cost will be \$7,000-\$10,000. Donations are needed to complete this project. Also, more gravel will need to be put on the city streets before Alumni/Memorial Day weekend. Donations may be made to the Highway Fund, c/o Jay Locy, R.R. 1 Box 93A, Norcatat, Kan., 67653, or through the Citizens Alliance.

Birthdays: Cathy Anthony - Feb. 9; Carol Cook - Feb. 10; Tom Jakowski - Feb. 14.

ROYAL NEIGHBORS
Royal Neighbors sponsored a birthday party at Good Samaritan Center on Wednesday, Jan. 19. Those going were Beth Johnson, Joyce Price, Dorothy Woods, Estella Harold, Lee and Lora Arnold, and Bob and Neoma Tacha. There were seven residents who celebrated January birthdays.

The Norcatat Museum is looking for obituaries and memorial cards, preferably of people buried in the Norcatat Cemetery. They can be dropped off at the Norcatat city office. They would like to have any Norcatat memorabilia for the museum. An open house is being planned for Memorial Day

weekend. Momma Millie's Café will now be open the first and third Sundays of the month, for dinner only. Dave and Patty Stapp, and Rick and Lynn Doeden of Oberlin, went to Highland Community College to watch Kortney Stapp play basketball. Gale and Kendra Cook of Sabetha met them at the game. Winners at Senior Citizens on Feb. 4 were Marilou Long, Gwynn Ward and Virgil Price. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Friday at the Educational Building.

Clent Hatfield wrote to say he had returned from a recent trip to Florida. He also visited his sister in Springfield, Mo. Clent said he was glad to be home, to all the good people he has come to know since moving here from Colorado, and thinks we should all consider ourselves lucky to live here.

Monday Bridge Club met with Merle Shirley in Oberlin on Feb. 7.

Glenn Alexander spent four days in the hospital at Goshen, Ind., the first week of February. Doctors believed it was a flu bug. He is back at Beverly and Barry's home and is doing fine.

Jay and Marylin Locy spent the weekend of Feb. 5 in Bartlesville, Okla., with their daughter, Shelley Schirer, and grandson, Aaron Bunker. Aaron attends Wesleyan Christian College there and they had an open house for parents and grandparents. The Locys report the campus is beautiful, and they had a great time visiting with Aaron and his friends.

WHISPERING PINES

By CYNTHIA KINDALL
Steve Albright went to Ann Lacy's house on Sunday, Jan. 16 for supper.

Priscilla Johnson, Dick and Claire Hemphill, Evelyn Hall got together and played bridge on Jan. 20.

On Sunday afternoon, Jan. 23, Bob and Donna McClelland, Almema; Tana and Nicholas Christensen, Laura and Weston of Orleans, Neb.; Tom and Jan Long of Hays and Rusty and Kelly and Isaac Leonard of Great Bend visited Beth and Elton Bryant at Whispering Pines.

On Kansas Day we had our guessing contest of who knew the most facts about Kansas. For about ten days we had a poster board out with 27 places in Kansas of which they needed to guess where it was. With less than ten people guessing, Beth Bryant guessed the closest with one wrong.

On Kansas Day, Don Moody celebrated his 90th birthday with his sister Rita Bieber and his niece Barbara Wassinger as guests for lunch.

Birthdays for February are: Ione Jordan, Feb. 5; Steve Albright, Feb. 7; Doris Stump, Feb. 27; Carrie Malcolm, Feb. 28. Congratulations to all!

On Feb 4 we played robber bingo with sixteen residents and one guest. Needless to say the usual things were to be had and traveled across the room several times.

Last week Lucille Stackhouse's sister, Edna Gartrell, from Stockton visited. This coming Friday her sister-in-law from Kirwin, Eileen Stackhouse, will be visiting. Shelley Walmmeier and children, Jasmine and Juoquin, were here to visit their great-grand-

mother. Violet Volgamore and grandson, Mike Volgamore, went out on Feb. 9 for business and then went on to Almema to see her son, Dale.

Luella Hicks and her son, Larry and Marguerite Clark, were here to visit with Betty Reid. Bill Craig of Norcatat came to visit with Betty Reid.

Visiting Dorothy Bernard were Adelia and Dean Wilnerd they came to visit and stayed to have supper with Dorothy and then played cards later. On Feb. 8, Beth Bernard and her friend Jerry were here for supper with Dorothy.

Ione's visitors were Bernice Becker, Anna Marie Kauten and Sue Kauten Stacey, Mr. and Mrs. James Kauten and daughter Morgan.

Hazel Bates's granddaughter Debbie Houk was here to visit.

Visiting Priscilla Johnson were her son Larry and his wife from Kansas City.

Beth and Elton Bryant's visitor this past week was Donna McClelland from Almema.

Melvin Hanchett's visitor this time has been his son Ted Hanchett from Colorado.

Brad and Karlynn Boyle from St. Paul, Minn., visited with her grandmother, Phileda Nelson. Tessa and Hadley Hauser are frequent visitors to their great-grandmother.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Buster from Denver visited Margaret Richards.

Steve Albright visited Ann Lacy for supper on his birthday the evening of Feb. 7.

Our annual Valentines Coffee was held on Feb. 16. The public was invited for coffee and valentine cookies with our residents and staff.

JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER
Because of the snow storm Tuesday the Sunflower Senior potluck supper and bingo were held Wednesday at 4 p.m.

Those attending were William and Rachel Carter, Stan and Ramona Shaw, Helen and Keith Muirhead, Bob and Neoma Tacha, Ruth and Merl Chance, Emma Sanford, Edith Foster, Jay Kump, Arch Harmon, Vendla Tacha, Kenneth Krizek, Mary Votopka and Louise Cressler. The next meeting will be March 8.

Jennings Housing Board will meet Thursday evening, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m. in the Friendship Village day room. Stan and Ramona Shaw at-

tended the Kids Wrestling matches in Oakley on Saturday to watch their grandson Bowen Black wrestle with the Colby kids squad. Bowen received a second place medal in his weight class. He wrestled in Lakin on Sunday and received a first place trophy in his weight class.

Doyle and Kay Brown, along with Keli and Phil Kleidosty of Wichita, returned home Monday from a twelve day vacation in Hawaii.

There will be a free tax consultation sponsored by American Association of Retired Persons held soon. For an appointment call Frances Bader at 785-678-2659.

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