

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Jeff Nielsen, Minister, Norton Christian Church

Easter is upon us early this year. This powerful event, this story that changes everything for us who are believers, is a surprising moment when God's joy spilled over into our world and rewrote the ending to all of our stories. It brings us untold joy because in this place, this victory, life is found in the middle of death and beats it. Most of all, it is the story of a horrible accident — an unconscionable miscarriage of justice — that

fully at what Mary said to the angels in response to their question. She says, "Because they have taken away my Lord ..."

Wow! She doesn't expect Jesus to be raised from the dead. She is coming to honor her friend even though all she held dear appears lost. More than a bookmark in her life, she comes to a tomb that holds hostage all her hopes. She is coming to remember all that Jesus

had done while preparing his dead body for decay. Yet in the middle of her coming, while Jesus is still dead in her mind ... she never relinquished his hold on her heart as her Lord — "my Lord!"

Isn't that the bottom line of the resurrection for all of us? Stuck in the darkest night of our soul, in the place where all seems lost and all hope has been stomped underfoot by the hosts of hell, we still hold on to Jesus as our Lord, then while we're not expecting him to do anything, he comes and reveals himself as the gracious, risen, and living Savior — our Savior.

Everything is changed. The worst of bad breaks is made more than whole. And why? Because Jesus is Lord!

The Strength of His Outstretched Arms

"The apartment building was ablaze! A horrific scream pierced the roar of the flames as the terrified woman held her toddler out the window. Miraculously, an alert onlooker, seeing the child, caught her in his outstretched arms! How incredible! What trust! How everyone cheered!"

What a refreshingly positive story. Yes, that mother placed all of her trust in the onlooker, but what was she to do? She had to make the choice to trust his ability to save her precious child. She had faith in the strength of his outstretched arms. It was a choice of life or death.

In much the same way, our spiritual lives face jeopardy. We feel the pressure of society to conform to unhealthy habits. We feel the economic pressure to sacrifice family time for the sake of possessions. We must make choices as well that will decide the fate of our spiritual lives.

Won't you choose the outstretched arms of your Heavenly Father? We read in Deuteronomy 33:27, "The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms..." God's earthly dwelling place is your local House of worship. He waits there to rescue you from harm.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jeremiah 31:1-14	Jeremiah 31:15-30	Jeremiah 31:31-40	Jeremiah 32:1-25	Jeremiah 32:26-44	Jeremiah 33:1-13	Jeremiah 33:14-26

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

The Norcat Rural High School class of 1965 is having a 40th anniversary celebration at the Rose of Sharon at 603 E. Main Street in Norton the evening of May 27. We are looking for addresses for Carl Wentz, Ronyie Beachel, Janice Berry (Messerschmidt), Mike Richards, Richard Meyers, Cy Cousins, Barbara Benton, Marilyn McElvane, Sandy Kelly, Bill Moss and Gary Wait and any others who went to school with us that we have forgotten. We would also like to invite teachers from our school years if anyone has addresses for them. Send to Sharon Schulze, 603 E. Main Street, Norton, Kan., 67654.

Thursday, March 3, supper guests of Leslie and Lynn Ward were Frank and Velda Ward, Ruby Pfleger, Keith Ward and friend Amber, and Wava Reames.

Keith Ward and Wava Reames were guests for Sunday dinner, March 6, at Frank and Velda Ward's.

Sunday, March 6, guests for supper and cards at Frank and Velda Ward's were Marguerite Clark and Wava Reames. Frank and Velda were not very nice to their guests during the pinochle games, but Marguerite and Wava plan to show 'em next time!

Wava Reames, Kingfisher, Okla., attended the pancake supper at the Methodist church, and really enjoyed seeing everyone.

Janet Rippe and daughter Allison, McCook, came by Sunday, March 6, picked up her aunt, Marguerite Clark, and they all ventured into Norton for pizza.

The annual Senior Citizens Card Party sponsored by the Royal Neighbors was held Friday, March 4, at the Educational Building. Soup and pie were served to 41 guests. Winners at cards were Marguerite Clark, first; Margaret Magers, second; and Mary Sedlmayer, third. Door prize winners were Lula Hix, Beth Johnson, Robert Schoenrad, Leona Schoenrad, Juanita Eckhart, Virgil Price, Lee Arnold, Margaret Magers, Terry Gade, Sandy Gade and Mary Sedlmayer. A good time was had by all.

The annual pancake and sausage feed sponsored by the United Methodist Church was held Saturday, March 5. There were 93 who signed the guest book. They came from Almena, Oberlin, Norton, Lyle, Clayton, Prairie Chapel, Jennings and Kingfisher, Okla.

Lynn Jeffries of Cornerstone Theater came to stay with Bill and Bee Nelson from Feb. 28-March 5. Sadly, she arrived a few hours too late to see Lee Eckhart, who she will greatly miss. Lynn got some work done on her little green house, visited with old friends, and enjoyed a fine shrimp supper at the Cardinal Bar and Grill with Ron Temple, Bill Rauch, Chris Moore, and Peter Howard also still work at Cornerstone Theater.

Lynn recently attended a 40th birthday party for Ashby Semple at the home of Amy Brenneman. Ashby is teaching high school English in Los Angeles. Amy is still producing and starring in her TV show, "Judging Amy," and is expecting her second child in May. Alison Carey and Ben Cobb are no longer with the company, but stay in touch. Alison is writing an adaptation of Shakespeare's "As You Like It" for Cornerstone to produce next year, as part of the company's twentieth anniversary season.

The recent pancake and sausage feed benefit to help move St. Mark's Lutheran Church to the Oberlin museum was successful and the movers have given the time of the end of April or the first part of May. The foundation is poured and ready. The Norcat Commercial Club helped with the benefit, as well as donations by various individuals and groups.

Birthdays and anniversaries: K.G. and Dorothy Ward - March 10; Sharee Dempewolf - March 14; Jason Breiner, Jim Plotts - March 15.

Now that Deb Marshall has taken a position with HeadStart in Oberlin, Lois Wentz is teaching the Norcat Pre-school. Deb said she really enjoyed her 10 years at the pre-school, and will still be the director. Any questions about the pre-school or its needs may be directed to either Deb or Lois.

On Saturday, Feb. 26, Troy and Deb Marshall, and Amanda, and Neil Marshall of Oberlin went to Wichita to listen to Anthony perform in the Kansas Music Educators Association state honor choir. The performances by the band, orchestra and choir were phenomenal. They later spent the evening with Joshua Jackson, who also attended. The next day, Deb, Anthony, Amanda and Adam Spanier went to Kearney to listen to Andrea Marshall perform with her college choir. While there, the group helped Andrea celebrate her 19th birthday.

The Royal Neighbors served a soup and pie supper to the Senior Citizens Friday night, March 4.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH
A group met at the Bell-Shirley Cemetery on Sunday, March 6, to watch Sharleen Wurm "witching" for unmarked graves. She located the unmarked graves of John Wesley and Letty Jane New's children buried in the Bell-Shirley Cemetery north of Norcat.

The method of "witching" is amazing. She located a cluster of five graves believed to be their deceased children, plus one adult female. She not only can find the grave, but also determine gender of the deceased.

The group consisted of Delores Stapp and Maxine Carr of Norton, Rodney New, Ronald Temple, Tracey Hartzog, some of the Norcat Cemetery board members, Wayne McCallister and Norma, Charles Hixson, and Bill and Bee Nelson. It was an interesting afternoon in spite of the wind. A few of us had to try our hand at this fascinating project.

ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE

Bill Godfrey stopped by on March 5 to give me his mother's phone number for Elda Schalansky. He had been to see Mike Hawks.

Francis Morford had surgery a few days ago. I talked to Dorothy last night and she said he was doing real well but missed his dog

so she and Nyla are going to take the dog to see him on Tuesday. Mail can reach him at P.C.U. Room 219, Kearney, Neb. 68847.

Vera Schra of McPherson spent the weekend with Alberta Geil. Vera spent Saturday with her Aunt Marie Engelhardt and Lucille Miller in Norton.

Showing of the Mel Gibson Film:

Passion of the Christ

First Church of God

1010 Churchill Drive
NORTON, KANSAS

Good Friday, March 25

7:00 P.M. (8' x 10' Screen)

FREE (The Church has paid for one licensed showing of the film)