

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Rev. Lew VanDerWege

Why was Jesus willing to suffer crucifixion for you and me? We know he struggled greatly with it as we read about him sweating blood in the Garden of Gethsemane. Even so, he chose God's plan for him over his own self-interest.

When he was tempted in the desert by Satan he was tempted to serve himself rather than God's purpose. It seems he had the power to avoid the Cross but still chose to die for us. His only motivation was love and compassion for humankind.

The ministry of Christ's Church is called to be motivated by the same selfless love and compassion that Jesus demonstrated in his life and death. When it is, it finds resurrection and new life — when it isn't it dies in its self-centeredness. This is true for our individual lives as well. Even though self-centeredness will usually promote one politically and economically, it will destroy one spiritually.

The Church exists in a "desert" right now in this world, and we must not let Satan tempt us into actions motivated by self-interest whether it be the Church's or our own. If we do, we will surely die. We must continually remind ourselves that love and compassion for God's people is our true calling as Christians. The Church exists for the lost and hurting in this broken world. God calls us to look beyond ourselves and extend the invitation of Christ's love to all.

When "Less is More"



"Mmm, I can just sniff spring in the air! What a glorious time of the year to begin our new life of retirement. We can start with spring-cleaning. Let's call the kids and see if they want some of these items we have accumulated. If not, we will just donate them to the needy."

As the average age of the population of our country increases, the movement to "downsize" increases as well. Less to maintain means more time for a relaxed life style and time to volunteer still vital energy for worthy causes in the community.

There is also more time to give to family...not only to children and grandchildren, but also to God's family. As earthly baggage is downsized, there is time and energy to increase participation in God's earthly kingdom... to serve as spiritual mentors to those still caught up in the whirlwind of activities that comes with parenting and maintaining careers.

As the apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans, "that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine." (1:11-12) Won't you worship this week as a member of God's family? Perhaps someone is waiting there for you to encourage.

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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- SUNDAY
Isaiah 25:1-12
- MONDAY
Isaiah 35:1-10
- TUESDAY
Isaiah 51:1-16
- WEDNESDAY
Isaiah 52:1-15
- THURSDAY
Isaiah 53:1-12
- FRIDAY
Isaiah 54:1-17
- SATURDAY
Isaiah 66:1-16

NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Oran and La Verne Milner drove to Denver Sunday, April 3. They visited Vera Bishop and Bruce Bishop and other relatives. Minnie Ruth Bailey was leaving Saturday, April 9, for an extended visit with her son, Greg and wife, who live in Florida. The Milners returned home Thursday, April 7.

Senior Citizens met Friday, April 1, with 22 persons attending. Winners were Clent Hatfield, Margaret Magers and Joyce Price.

On Easter weekend Dixie and Elvin Wood, David and Tina Wood, Dwight and Teresa Wood, and Veda Wood, met in the home of Mervin Wood of Newton, Iowa. Mervin had been wanting the family to visit and learn his wishes for some belongings and keepsakes. He is presently residing in an assisted living complex. Along with a wonderful visit, they celebrated Teresa's birthday as well as the Easter holiday.

Visitors in Veda Wood's home recently have been Ona Van Gundy, Dwight and Teresa Wood, Dennis Wood, Jim and Carolyn Plotts and Fred Molzahn.

Jeanie Pelkey surprised Bill Craig with birthday cake and coffee at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Friday, April 8.

A bridal shower was held Saturday, April 9, at the Educational Building for Amy Karnes. Amy and Chad Kier were married at Clayton on Saturday, April 16.

Birthdays and anniversaries: Frank and Velda Ward - April 14; Brad and Shanna Long; Claire and Mary Leslie - April 18; Anthony Marshall - April 19; Jonathan and Mandi Fick - April 21; Forrest Jackson - April 23; Gary Anthony, Greg Sumner - April 24; Yvonne Sumner - April 25; Gerald Jackson, Les and Lynn Ward - April 26.

Esther Miller was an Easter dinner guest of Carol and Stan Miller. Beverly Morris, Hoxie, visited her "Grandma Esther," and did some yard work. They had dinner at Momma Millie's Café.

The Monday Bridge Club met with Esther Miller on April 4. Winners were Beth Sebaugh, Judy Shirley and Marty Munson, all of Oberlin. Guests were Leone Purton and Marie McKisson.

The Norcatour Cemetery Board welcomes Charles Hixson as a regular board member. His willingness to serve is appreciated. The other board members are Gary Anthony, Troy Marshall, Wayne McCallister and Bill Nelson.

Glenn Alexander and Rea and Dee Magers were luncheon guests of Frank and Velda Ward at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Thursday, April 7.

Winners of the pool tournament held Monday, April 4, at the Cardinal Bar and Grill were: first - Bob Barnett, Norcatour; second - Herb Shirley, Oberlin; and third - Brad Barnett, Trenton, Neb.

Marvin and Millie Matchett will attend the State Music Festival in Concordia on April 30. Their daughter, Marci, will be playing a flute solo and as part of the flute trio.

70th ANNIVERSARY

Ralph and Berniece (Hussfeldt) Shivley will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on April 30. Along with four children and spouses, they enjoy 11 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. They may be reached at 2044 W. 17th Street, Loveland, Colo., 80538.

MAILBAG

Kathy and David Ankenman let us know at the *Norcatour News* they

enjoy reading about everyone, and what is happening in the Norcatour area. Roger and Diana New wrote in with plans to attend the Norcatour Alumni and Memorial Day events. Gene Morgan enjoys the *News*, especially the old stories; he turned 80 in February and is doing well. Bob and Shirley Anderson say the *News* has "been the glue that has held our little City on the Hill together," and that they also plan to attend the May reunion. Although she can no longer sit and read easily, Geneva Leichter appreciates receiving the *News*. Martha and Dick Schiewe let us know they will not be able to attend the alumni activities this year, as once again they have a daughter graduating from high school.

Jenna Long, Janice O'Hare, Sharee Dempewolf and Chris Dempewolf worked at Elden Auker Park on Saturday, April 16. Flowerbeds were cleaned out, light poles painted, rock was added to the gazebo flowerbed, and the day lilies were separated.

Norcatour Commercial Club scholarship applications can be picked up at The Bank or the Norcatour City Office. With the help of the Cardinal Bar and Grill, the club will be giving three \$300 scholarships this year. They are available for anyone going to v-tech, junior college or university. Applications must be returned by May 20. Scholarships will be awarded by May 29.

Beth Johnson and Fred Molzahn visited Jo Bewar at Prairie Senior Living Complex on Thursday, April 14.

Cathy Claussen and Beth Johnson attended a bridal shower honoring Angella Johnson, bride-elect of Chris Claussen, in Omaha on Saturday, April 16. They returned home the next day.

There were 24 in attendance at Senior Citizens on Friday, April 15. Winners were Glenn Alexander, Juanita Eckhart, and Margaret Magers. The next meeting will be Friday, April 29, with a potluck supper beginning at 6 p.m., and cards at 7 p.m.

Ethel Miller received word of the death of her brother-in-law, Albert P. Miller, on April 6.

ALUMNI BANQUET

The Norcatour Rural High School Alumni Banquet will be held Saturday, May 28. Those planning to attend need to contact Von Johnson at 117 West Legend Drive, Pueblo West, Colo., 81007-1714 or email V2535@hotmail.com for your tickets. The dinner will be roast pork. Tickets will be \$15 per person, and need to be purchased by May 1.

Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. followed by a dance at 9 p.m. The dance, sponsored by the Norcatour Commercial Club, will be free, although there will be donation jars at the doors for anyone who would like to help with the scholarship fund.

If anyone would like to get together and visit, the Norcatour Grade School will be open 12 noon-8 p.m. on Friday, May 27. You can tour the schoolhouse that day, or visit the Norcatour Museum, located in the same building. The school will open again Saturday from 12 noon on, and Sunday morning at 10 a.m. Cookies, tea and coffee will be provided Friday evening at 7 p.m., and at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Lunch will be served at noon on Memorial Day at the Norcatour Grade School All-purpose Room for \$5 per person. Please indicate if you will be attending, so an estimate of food can be made.

LYLE NEWS

By DEANNA SUMNER

Tuesday, April 19, Toots Magers and Kathy Van Meter attended the Good Samaritan Appreciation breakfast in Oberlin. That evening June Jolly, Toots and Kathy attended the Prairie Land supper and meeting.

Wednesday, April 20, the Lyle Ladies sewed; those sewing were: Joyce Sumner, Veda Wood, Toots Magers and Kathy Van Meter.

Thursday, April 21, Kathy Van Meter traveled to WaKeeney to ride the activity bus to Salina for the Golden Years Spring Festi-

val. Saturday, April 23, Toots and Kathy went with Security First Bank to Omaha, where they saw, "Fiddler On The Roof", and had supper at the Upstream Restaurant. Joining them for a visit was Kevin Engelhardt and friend, Catherine.

Sunday, April 24, Kathy Van Meter attended a Senior Citizen Prom in Araphoe, put on by Security First Bank. That evening Toots, June Jolly and Kathy went to Norton and played party pitch at Joyce Sumner's home.



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