

# Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

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

**Matthew 13: The Parable of the Sower**

Jesus was a great story teller. He used the stories to help people understand his message and that tactic seemed to work, though often, he had to explain the story, or the parable, to his listeners. I remember, as a youth, wondering why "they" didn't get it but now I realize they didn't have the benefit of having the New Testament in front of them or two thousand years of history behind them.

I've also come to realize parts of this parable describe my life and, probably, some of yours as well.

When I first heard the gospel, I took it to heart and was really enthusiastic about it but I didn't let it take root. It wasn't riches or persecution that took away my enthusiasm, it was laziness and the call of all the "fun" things to do. How could I go waste my time and money in bars on Sat-

urday night if I had to get up and go to church on Sunday morning? Why should I worry about somebody not having enough to eat or being lonely? I did care about

people but, because I didn't put God first in my life, I didn't do anything to improve any one else's life.

Our God is a patient and loving God who tended my

soul and prepared it for a second planting. This time, when the seed fell, it found fertile soil. This time the gospel put down deep roots and is continuing to grow and will produce a good yield.

If you heard the gospel but ignored it, if you heard the gospel and became enthused but only for a short while, if you heard the gospel and loved it but walked away from it because you got teased or wanted something else, listen to it again. Nothing you have ever said or done has made God stop loving you. Give yourself a second, or third, chance to hear God's voice. Let God work in you and let that seed of faith grow, put down roots, and you will not only produce a good yield for God, you will be blessed with joy beyond belief, knowing your reward will be great in heaven.



### Priorities

Sometimes you have a really productive day, one full of purpose. That "to-do" list you made this morning has almost every item crossed off, and it's only mid-afternoon! You've been working hard without a pause and it feels good to get so many things done. Next on the list is . . . wait, take a break and slow down a bit . . . take some time to sit and catch your breath.

While resting, why not reflect on your spiritual life? Where does God rank on your list? Though our goals for today and each day are important, the knowledge of God's standards for our lives is essential. How do we know what God's standards are? His Word, the Bible, is a wonderful guide for establishing priorities for living. In 2 Timothy 3:16-17, it says: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Worship God in His house each week, and pray to Him each day concerning His plan for you. God will help you keep your list in order. Trust Him.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Matthew 18:21-35	Genesis 33:1-17	Genesis 45:1-28	Genesis 49:29-50:14	Exodus 33:1-23	Exodus 34:1-28	Numbers 14:11-25

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society  
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# WHISPERING PINES

By CYNTHIA KINDALL  
Ed Whitney and Jim and Shirley Malcolm came to visit Mable Malcolm on May 21.  
Ashley Houk from Missouri stopped and visited her great-grandmother, Hazel Bates.  
Steve and Eileen Holliday from Fairbury, Neb., visited Carrie Malcolm. Paul and Karen Holliday from Johnson, were other visitors.  
Lowell and Debbie Bryant of Topeka visited Beth and Elton Bryant on Friday afternoon, May 27.  
On May 21 Kennis, Nancy, and Ann McClelland, Darleen McClelland of Beaver City, Kaylene and Karissa Bell of Holdrege, visited Beth and Elton Bryant.  
Kirk Kasson called on Beth and Elton Bryant one day the end of May.  
Kennis, Kaine, Ann and Nancy McClelland of Beaver City visited Elton and Beth Bryant on Sunday May 29. They all enjoyed playing with dart guns.  
Visiting Ione Jordan were Jim and Patty Kauten and Marie. Morgan Kauten was out for breakfast on Memorial Day and to decorate the cemeteries.  
Donna and Bob McClelland were here to visit Elton and Beth Bryant on May 30.  
Greg and Ardie Grimes, Baldwin City, visited Dorothy Bernard over Memorial Day weekend. They decorated graves at Almena and Densmore and attended the services at Mt. Hope in Almena. Jeff Grimes and Charise and Nate Orr came on Sunday to see "Gram". They all visited Wayne Bernard at the Logan Manor.  
Ione Jordan's recent visitors the end of May were Flora Sanders from Topeka, and Esther Tweed of Norton.  
Beth Bernard and Ardie Grimes took Dorothy Bernard out for dinner June 11. Ardie stayed overnight to take Dorothy to the Roeder family reunion in Almena on Sunday, June 12.  
The United Methodist women were at Whispering Pines on June 8 for their meeting of which Beth Bryant, Ione Jordan and Lucille Stackhouse joined them.  
On June 12 the following met at the Senior Center in Almena to honor Bob McClelland on his 80th birthday which is June 29. They were: Beth Bryant and Kennis, Nancy and Ann McClelland Beaver City; Darleen McClelland Beaver City Assisted Living; Kaine McClelland from Kearney;

Kaylene, Jeff and Karissa Bell Holdrege; Bob and Donna McClelland Almena; Dennis and Jacob and Brooke McClelland and friend Kelly and Izaac Leonard of Great Bend; Tana and Nicholas Christensen, Lural and Weston of Orleans, Nebr.; Carol Hrabec and Cody Hardy, Ila and Eldon George, Bobby Godfrey, Redeara Godfrey, Kirk, Kim, Macy and Micah Kasson, Almena.  
Those in attendance for the second anniversary party at Whispering Pines were Hula Girls Cynthia Collins and Suzi White. The following staff members helped with the party Cynthia Kindall, Amber Young, and Heather Lawson. The following residents attended: Elton and Beth Bryant, Ione Jordan, Alice Vogt, Steve Albright, Phileda Nelson and daughter, Lois Meyer, Carrie and Mable Malcolm, Violet Volgamore, Melvin Hanchett, Elfriede Kelly, Priscilla Johnson and Marie Ritter.  
The dining room was decorated with lanterns and exotic flowers and the cookies were fitting for the occasion.  
The week of June 10 visitors of Carrie and Mabel Malcolm were Tom and Rhonda Malcolm, Margaret McElroy and Carol Wertenberger of Topeka, Don and Linda Malcolm of Almena.  
We would also like to welcome Aggie and John Vehige to the Whispering Pines family.  
One of the activities that residents enjoyed this month was making yeast donuts. Favorites are puzzles, and cross words and word searches. Georgia Moshier came to help with our light bulbs as the ladies are doing some very pretty decorated ones. As usual on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays at ten a.m., there is an exercise class, and at 7:30 p.m. on Monday evenings Bible study. On Wednesdays at 2:15 p.m. Liza Deines comes to read to residents. Once a month on the second Thursday, the Rev. Lou Van Der Wege comes to give communion to anyone wishing it. That is followed with hymn singing at 7 p.m..  
If you are ever bored at home, or if you have a craft or hobby you would like to share, come visit at Whispering Pines. Happy Fathers Day to all the residents who are fathers and grandfathers.  
Some activities next month will include working on more decorated light bulbs and then on the 20th of July we will have our annual Christmas in July open house with Christmas cookies, this will be from two-thirty until four.

made a trip to Boulder, Colo., for a doctor's appointment and to attend a wedding anniversary party in Glendo, Wyo. The fishing was bad, but the fellowship was great. Steve entertained himself here by taking in the museum and antique stores in the area.  
The first annual Norcatur pigeon round-up, held June 21, went off without a hitch, thanks to the efforts of Gerald Jackson and Denny Lane. The round-up took place at the Fossilstone Farm on south Detroit Avenue. No birds were harmed during the event.  
Bill and Linda Young of Conifer, Colo., spent the weekend of June 18-19 with Lula Hix. They celebrated Father's Day with Wilbur Hix on Saturday, June 18. Bill and Linda left on Sunday.  
Rea and Dee Magers, Jeff Magers and Joy Luota went fishing on Father's Day at the lake at Norton. It was a very warm day and they caught no fish, but everyone had a great time.  
Lora Linn Leichter is still undergoing tests at Mayo Clinic, and expected to have surgery.  
Company at Rea and Dee Mager's the last week of June were Bill and Imogene Hahn from Denver. Bill is Dee's brother.  
Bill Nelson died Monday, June 27, at his home in Norcatur. Memorial services were held Saturday at the Norcatur United Methodist Church.

# NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS  
Birthdays and anniversaries: Laci Leichter, Larry James - June 29; Betty Reid, Ronald Temple - July 1; Bee Nelson - July 4; Gerald and Judy Jackson - July 5.  
Three Norcaturites, Katrina Wentz, Marci Matchett and Destiny Chastain, gave their hair to a good cause at the fourth annual Decatur County Relay for Life this year. Locks of Love, where donors give 10 inches or more of their hair to be used in making wigs for cancer patients and others, was a new feature at the fundraiser this year.  
The Norcatur Commercial Club and Cardinal Bar and Grill has awarded three \$300 scholarships to Andrea Marshall, Justine Miller and Brandy Cook this year.  
Bryce and Abigail Thornton would like to announce the arrival of their baby brother. Isaac Ray tipped the scales at 8 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Isaac was born on June 24, his parents' anniversary. Isaac's parents are Ray and Jennifer Thornton. Paternal grandparents are R.D. Thornton and the late Eunice Thornton; maternal grandparents are Rita Weeks and the late Robert Weeks.  
Jerry and Cheri Hill had Jerry's brother, Steve Hill from Denver, as a guest June 8-13. Steve houses at for them while Jerry and Cheri

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The paper you read for the news you need!

**THE NOR TON TELEGRAM**