

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

The Light of Christ — By Lew Van Der Wege, Norton **United Methodist Church**

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5). Have you ever experienced total darkness? To do so one must be somewhere such as deep in a cave because even in places that seem dark there is usually enough light to allow one to see movement or shape.

My family and I experienced total darkness in a cave and it was very frightening. We were with a large group touring the cave. When we came to a certain spot the tour guide told us that the lights would be turned off and we could experience total darkness. I had been in the dark many times and I didn't think this was going to be very impressive.

Iwas wrong. When the lights went out I waited for a few seconds thinking my eyes would adjust and I would be able to see movement and shape. It didn't happen. This place was void of light. It was total darkness. I began to feel uncomfortable about where other members of my family were. I knew my young son was close but the darkness made me feel uncertain about his safety. I could feel a mood of panic come over the group. A child began to cry. The lights came back on and we all breathed a sigh of relief.

Have you ever considered what the world would be like without the Light of Christ? Sometimes this old world seems really dark but without His Light it would be total darkness. That's what Christmas is all about. Acknowledging the Light, celebrating the Light, and reflecting the Light. Merry Christmas.

Advancing Through

During the rush of getting ready for Christmas, do you ever wish Christmas came some other time - it's too busy in December! When is a good time for Christmas? Put another way, when are we prepared for **Christmas?**



One way to be prepared is to be open to new understanding based on new teaching and revelation of old truth. This was the job of John the Baptist. He was, as the angel told his father, Zechariah, "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord". (Luke 1:17) He was sent to remind the people that a messiah was coming, and he readied them to receive new truth in the context of old hopes, dreams, and prayers.

In this season of Advent, the four Sundays before Christmas, we celebrate an old truth, the coming of Christ. As we light a new candle on the traditional Advent wreath each week, we are reminded anew to prepare for the arrival of something momentous. Reflecting on an event that happened so long ago can reveal to us a new understanding of how to live our lives today.

Prepare for Christmas in advance this Advent; attend your house of worship weekly and learn something new.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mark	Psalm	Psalm	Psalm	Isaiah	Isaiah	Isaiah
13:14-37	80	81	84	42:1-25	43:1-28	44:1-28

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NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR **NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS**

Birthdays and anniversaries: Brian Cook - Nov. 23; Kalee Ward, Oran and LaVerne Milner - Nov. 24; Marvin Matchett - Nov. 27.

CHRISTMAS DRAWING AND FUND-RAISER

The annual Norcatur Christmas Drawing will be held on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 4 p.m. in the All-purpose Room of the City Building. If you would like to donate money for a turkey, ham, roast or fruit basket, the amount will be \$12 each. All money must be received no later than Dec. 1. Make checks payable to Cardinal Kids Connection and specify which of the above you would like to provide.

If you would like to donate other items for the drawing, please let us know by Dec. 1. Donated items may be left at the city office or preschool room, no later than Dec. 14. We need lots of donations to have enough items for every family attending. Please help make this a fun event for everyone.

Following the Christmas Drawing, the Cardinal Kids Connection pre-school will have a free-will donation fund-raising supper. The meal will be chicken and noodles with baked potatoes and cinnamon rolls. All donations will go to the pre-school.

Come spend your afternoon with us on Dec. 17. If you have any questions contact Deb Marshall, Chris Dempewolf or Lois Wentz.

Guests of Dorothy Breiner the Kent and Julie Legg, McCook; Jacque Eklund, Hutchinson; and Brad and Jean McMullen, Jason Breiner, Kayla and Tyler Cook, Norton. The girls all stayed over Monday for the funeral of Marguerite Fullerton.

Marjorie Prince of Liberty, Mo., spent several days this past week visiting her mother, Arlene Hix, and Francis Hix and other rela-

Donna Vick, Monument, Colo., has been a patient at Penrose Community Hospital since mid-November due to complications from previous surgeries. She expected to be released from the hospital in time to be home for Thanksgiving. Mail will reach her at 19455 Sheriff Way, Monument, Colo., 80132. Phone is (719) 488-5705.

There were 21 attending Senior Citizens at the Friday, Nov. 18, meeting. Winners were Margaret Magers, Bob Strevey, and Terry Glade. Next meeting will be Fri-

day, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m.

Rea and Dee Magers and their family had an early Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 13. Visiting for the weekend were Bob and Cheri Pomeroy, Zach and Brenda Pomeroy, Lakewood, Colo.; and Jeff and Joy Magers, Cedar Bluffs. Matt Pomeroy, Fort Collins, Colo., was unable to be with the family as he had just started a new job. It was a fun weekend of hunting, antiquing, playing Scrabble, visiting, and enjoying lots of good

Wednesday, Nov. 9, visitors of Veda Wood were Carol Moye and daughters, Tracey Pershins and Adrienne Vacura and Tilia Bader and Aubrey. Carol, Tracey and Adrienne were guests at the Liberty Star Thanksgiving supper that evening. David Wood came Saturday evening and his daughter, Hannah and Israel Jirah and baby Landon, came by Sunday evening. Most of the group attended the Lyle Bazaar.

On Friday, Oct. 7, Norcatur Grain Inc. began piling corn on the ground. As of Tuesday, Nov. 15, they had approximately 525,000 bushels piled up.

Bev Morris, Hoxie, was an overnight visitor Thursday, Nov. 10, of her grandmother, Esther Miller. Saturday dinner guests of Esther were Annette and Gary Miller, Oberlin, and Michael Miller of Prairie Village. Michael was a weekend guest.

Kenneth Carter visited the Kenweekend of Veteran's Day were neth Prices on Monday, Nov. 14.

On Sunday afternoon, Nov. 20, Kenneth and Pansy Price enjoyed visiting their new neighbor, Shirley Wilcox, who lives on the Lee Eckhart farm. Late that afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Shaw, Oberlin, visited the Prices.

Mary Lough of Wamego and Terry Cross of Olathe came Thursday to be with their dad, Lowell Sebaugh, while he had hip replacement surgery in McCook.

Mary, Terry, Linda and Monty Hunt and Janice O'Hare were supper guests of Lowell at the Cardinal Bar and Grill for Mexican food. Mary returned to her home on Sunday and Terry returned on

Marguerite Clark had an eye treatment in Hastings this past week, and has been confined to her home for the usual five days after treatment, no sunshine allowed. She planned to be out and about on Monday, and is doing well.

By DORIS MIZELL

Mrs. Carline Schemper and daughter Jaynelle of Holdredge, Neb. visited Marie Engelhardt Thanksgiving Day.

On Nov. 20 a friend from Spava, Ill., came to visit Georgia O'Neill.

Mildred Schwab spent Thanks-McAllister's at Norcatur. Rob and Dodie McAllister and two boys of Holcomb were there also. Mike McAllister of Hays took his grandmother to Wayne's and returned her home in the evening.

A week ago, Nov. 21, Mr. and Aiden, Aylwen and three-week old Rowan stopped by for lunch.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Foland's granddaughter called them just before Thanksgiving and said they were invited to Brian's grandmother's for Thanksgiving dinner in Norton. They came from Hays and picked up the Folands. This was a surprise for the Folands and very good to get out with people.

Maxine Brooks spent Thanksgiving with her daughter, Shirley and Jerry Gallentine of Clayton.

On Thanksgiving Mr. and Mrs. James Skrdlant's, son-in-law came and got them to spend the day at Dawn and Bob Pauleys and son-in-law came and took them to attend a wedding reception for his youngest child, Justin and wife Katrina who were married Feb, 28.

giving with Deb Bowen and fam- and Peggy.

ily. Friday, Nov. 25, Tim and Kim O'Neill from Farmington, Ark., came to help Helen O'Neill celebrate her 90th birthday. The family of Helen attending at Attitudes were Jason O'Neill, Tim and Kim O'Neill and Georgia O'Neill.

Doris Mizell hosted her family giving at Wayne and Norma for Thanksgiving dinner in the Community Room at the Manor. Those attending were Roberta and Dennis McCallister, Clayton; Carolyn and Roger Linsenmeyer, Beatrice, Neb.; Bob and Diane Mizell, Nickerson; Michael Mizell, Livermore, Calif.; Connie Mrs. James Skrdlant got a surprise and Marlin Lillich, Atwood; Patty call. Their granddaughter, Heather and Jerry Foster, Jennings; Jared Berger, husband Rob and children and Peggy Foster, Manhattan; Jordan Mizell and his Japanese friends Chihiro, Takahiro and Daichi, Manhattan; Priscilla and Aaron Mizell, Salina; Lester Mizell, Ray and Ruth Mizell, Stephen, David and Jacob and Brian Volgamore, Norton.

Thanksgiving Day Levonne Otter came to the Manor and took Ethel Miller to their farm home for dinner. They also brought her mother, Anetta Knapp.

Sunday was Thanksgiving day at the Mick Miller home. Those attending were Brock Miller and family; Ashley and family from Holdrege; Beth Sharp, William Sharp and Lida. Doris Mizell and Lester spent

their family. On Saturday their Friday at the home of Doyle and Arlene Foss, Edmond, getting acquainted with their family that were there for the holiday. Saturday they went to Jennings to visit Georgia O'Neill spent Thanks- with Jerry and Patty Foster, Jared

