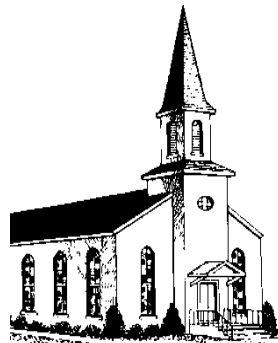


Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Kirk Kasson, Almena Congregational Church
What Does God Want You To Do For The Poor?

To prepare for a recent mission trip, I looked up the word "poor" in the Bible.

Read the following verses, and then ask yourself what does God think of those who are poor?

Leviticus 19:9-10 "When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest.

Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the Lord your God.

Proverbs 14:20-21 The poor are shunned even by their neighbors, but the rich have many friends. He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy.

Proverbs 14:31 He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

Proverbs 17:5 He who mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 19:7 A poor man is shunned by all his relatives — how much more do his friends avoid him! Though he pursues them with pleading, they are nowhere to be found.

Proverbs 19:17 He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward him for what he has done.

Proverbs 22:2 Rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the Maker of them all.

Proverbs 22:9 A gener-

ous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

Proverbs 31:9 Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Luke 3:11 The man with two tunics should share with him who

has none, and the one who has food should do the same.

Luke 14:12-14 Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so

you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Acts 9:36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor.

Acts 10:1-2 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.

James 2:3-5 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

When I read those verses I am convicted of two things:

1. God loves and cares for the poor.
2. God expects me to do the same.

A SEASON OF SINGING



Isn't it wonderful when spring returns to melt the sharp edges of winter with her warm rays? The soft billowing clouds are beautiful in the sapphire sky; colorful bulbs poke their blooms up through the thawed soil; the first robins build nests to cushion their eggs.

Yes, spring provides a soft touch after a long winter. We read in the Song of Solomon 2:11, "See! The winter is past...flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come...."

Just as the warmth of spring brings out the robins to build nests to protect their eggs, God is there to protect and care for us. How soothing to enjoy the warmth of His love after the storms of our busy days overwhelm us.

Worship each week in God's sanctuary. From the warmth of His House you will emerge renewed, refreshed and strengthened, just as if spring had entered your life.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jeremiah 12.1-13	Jeremiah 32.16-25	Jeremiah 32.26-44	Lamentations 3.1-33	Lamentations 3.34-66	Daniel 9.1-19	Daniel 9.20-27

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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WILSONVILLE

By JOY STALDER

Saturday night supper guests of Kenneth and Carla Holtze were Rhonda and LaVern Banzhaf, Kayla and Krayton; Brad and Renee Holtze, Josh and Drew of Cambridge and Russ and Kendra Hoagland, Travis, Jake and Trenton of Hastings. Trenton stayed with his grandparents until Monday evening.

Jeremy and Jennifer Hoard are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Avery, Friday morning, March 16, at the Holdrege Hospital. He weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and was 19 1/4 inches long. Grandparents are Greg and Lori Leibbrandt.

Kennedy, Carter and Ava Hoard stayed Friday, Saturday and Sunday with their grandparents, Greg and Lori Leibbrandt.

Dale and Mary Wilson returned home Sunday evening from a two weeks vacation. They had a five-day cruise on the Caribbean and then drove to Tampa, Fla., then to Daytona, up the east coast, then drove to the north coast of North Carolina, on to Knoxville and from there, flew home.

Before returning home they stopped to visit their kids in Kansas City — Julie, her husband and family and stopped in Lincoln to visit Greg and his wife before going home.

Deanna and Anita Propes took Dean and Margaret Brown to their doctor's appointment in Kearney Monday.

Kent Lang is spending a few days in Wilsonville with his family, Lelia Lang and Chris.

Mike and Roxy Lang and their grandchildren, Peyton and Logan Lang visited Lelia Lang and Chris Saturday morning.

Tim Palmer and Jeff Villegas from McCook spent the weekend with Darrel and June Palmer.

Pat Yost went to Kearney Thursday and met Ashley and Daniel Morse and they had supper together.

Steve Rice left on a mission trip to Mexico Saturday with Kirk Kasson through the Congregational Church of Almena.

Austin Rice auditioned Monday for the Missoula Children's Theatre adaptation of "Little Mermaid." He received a small part and will be performing with the other children on Saturday at the McCook High School Auditorium.

Allen and Connie Wilson spent Saturday with their daughter and family, Kim, Josh and Evan Townsend.

Last week Connie Wilson attended the first Relay for Life meeting in Arapahoe. Anyone interested in walking on the Wilsonville team should contact Connie as soon as possible.

Dale and Beth Stanley were in Omaha over the weekend to make acquaintance of their new grandson, Truman J. Stanley born March 20. He is the son of Troy and Michelle Stanley of Omaha. Truman has a sister, Adeline, 3, who is very happy to have her new brother. Adeline will enter Children's Hospital March 28 to have her fourth chemo treatment.

Four of the Silver Spurs 4-H Club members gave speeches or public service announcements at the Ella Missing Center in Arapahoe recently.

Ginger ten Bensel of Hastings visited her parents Carl and Ella Reaten Bensel Monday and Tuesday.

Kendall and Virginia Rice attended the Missoula Theatre production, of "The Little Mermaid" at McCook Saturday afternoon. Their grandson, Austin Rice, had a part in the play. They met Bob and Jean Gardner, Austin's other grandparents, at the play.

Roxy and Mike Lang and Peyton, Jessica Lang and Logan were Saturday afternoon visitors of Mrs. Lelia Lang and Chris. Jessica Lang and Logan, Hastings, returned home after their visit.

Peyton Lang came out to visit her grandparents, Mike and Roxy Lang on Thursday and spent the weekend with them.

Andy Lewis and Alicia Dagerman, Lincoln, came out Friday to spend the weekend with Andy's parents, Bill and Kathy Lewis.

On Saturday, Alicia's sisters, Stephanie, Sarah and Abby Dagerman and two friends, Mark and Jude from Omaha came out and spent the weekend in the

Lewis home.

Sunday dinner guests of Bill and Kathy Lewis were Andy Lewis, Alicia Dagerman, Stephanie, Sarah and Abby Dagerman, friends Mark and Jude and Karen, Gary and Nick Brown.

Phil Menke and his hired man came out on Monday and Tuesday to help Bill Lewis get ready for his sale.

Dave and Linda Hirschfeld of Utica stopped in to visit with Victor and Nancy Knutson on Monday.

Pat Yost went to McCook Tuesday afternoon to hear Central Connections sing at Willow Ridge. Her granddaughter, Madison Shepherd, is a part of this group.

Pat Yost went to Kearney Friday and had supper with Ashley (Shearer) Morse.

Micah Kasson, Almena, spent Thursday and Friday with her grandparents, Joe and Alice Kasson, while her parents and brother were on a mission trip to Mexico. Her parents returned home Friday night.

Club meets in Cambridge

The IHelp Others (I.H.O.) Club met March 14 at Heritage Plaza with Carole Volker as hostess. The table was decorated with green favors, napkins, and gold coins.

After lunch, the business meeting was called to order by President Carole Holtze. The minutes and treasurer's report were given and approved.

The birthday song was sung to Nadeane Haag and Margalee Ruf. Margalee was also given an article to read on "Life begins at 80."

Eight members answered roll call with things about spring, why I like spring and things about St. Patrick's Day. Every member received an Irish pen from Carole because after all it's the wearin' of the green that counts on St. Patrick's Day.

United Methodist Women

The U.M.W. met March 15 at the Wilsonville United Methodist Church for their monthly meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Nadeane Haag who read two articles from the Epworth Village issue entitled ROOTS followed with all repeating the Purpose. Thank yous were read from all those who had received the Love plates.

An announcement was made about the Day of Spiritual Renewal in Huntley on March 31 starting at 9 a.m. The chairman of Social Action had a litany on cultural etiquette with helpers Adeline Ballou and Rev. Malchow.

March 25 was a special Sunday for the Hendley and Wilsonville Methodist churches because the Rev. Malchow celebrated his 90th birthday with his congregations and his family.

Carole Volker gave the program entitled, "Rise and Shine for Christ is Risen". Lillian Lemaster and Adeline Ballou assisted her with reading parts. Carole had a very attractive worship table with articles dealing with Lent and Easter.

A lunch of green and yellow cake and coffee was served by Nadeane Haag.

Double Eight Club

The Double Eight Club met at the home of Becky Holtze on Wednesday, March 21. Margene Holtze was a guest at the club meeting.

Lyndzie Holtze the program. Lyndzie and her mother, Mitzi Urbom demonstrated cake decorating techniques. They then had the members each decorate a small Easter Egg shaped cake.

During their business meeting it was decided to give \$10 to the Easter Egg Hunt that will be held on Saturday, April 7. The Easter Egg hunt is sponsored by the Wilsonville Women's Club.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, April 18.

A delicious lunch was served by Becky Holtze and Lyndzie Holtze.

