

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Jesus in Churches,

In the Name of Keeping Religion Private"

By Jerry Cummings, Pastor of Living Hope Fellowship in Norton

Psalm 40:3
He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.
This verse from Psalms speaks of a very different approach to touching lives than what we would normally teach or think. As Christians, we usually think only in terms of speaking directly to people about the truth of God as seen in Jesus, the scripture, and so on. We have various types of outreach and evangelism directed toward people. Indeed these activities are commanded in the scriptures and are very important.
However, in Psalm 40:3, he speaks of people being impacted by something more indirect. He says that he will sing and give praise to God. He will express himself out of his own love and gratitude, something that is to God and for Him. He then states that as people observe this worship and praise to God, many of them will respond to God for themselves.
Indeed we find that something happens when people declare their love and praise to God, from their heart, without concern for the opinions of others. In the New Testament we read that we teach one another, as we sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to the

Lord. I remember as a young child overhearing my mother pray in her bedroom. It wasn't even meant for my ears, but it had a powerful effect upon me.
There is something about hearing or observing someone give themselves to God in devotion, prayer or praise that draws us toward God. One of the problems in our society is that many have accepted the idea that faith or spirituality is a private matter, and should never take place around other people, except in a church type setting.
Jesus did teach that our prayers should never be for the sake of a show, to impress others. But He also taught that what we are not to be two different people in private and in public. There has been the tendency to accept every form of public evil in the name of free expression, and at the same time, to keep our expressions of love for Jesus in churches, in the name of keeping religion a private matter.
The bottom line is this: if we will love Jesus with all our hearts, without hiding this devotion, there will be an impact upon those around us and our society for the kingdom of God. May our hearts and mouths be filled with the goodness and praise of our Savior.



Losing and Finding

Have you ever lost something? Most of us have at one time or another.
We search frantically, we check our pockets, rummage through drawers and retrace our steps. The more valuable the item, the harder we look. If we can't find it right away we wonder if it will turn up. We try to reassure ourselves that it will.
Losing something makes us feel terrible. Many things can be replaced, some things cannot. What joy we feel when we find the thing that has been lost... especially when it is something most precious!
Imagine losing that which is most valuable, your faith in God. Keep sight of your faith, praise God each week at your house of worship. He will reassure you.

- Sunday
Ezekiel 11.1-25
- Monday
Ezekiel 34.1-16
- Tuesday
Ezekiel 34.17-31
- Wednesday
Amos 5.1-27
- Thursday
Jonah 3.1-4.11
- Friday
Micah 4.1-13
- Saturday
Micah 6.1-16

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER
The Jennings American Legion and Auxillary met with their district officers at the museum on Sept. 24. Roger Tacha has donated an old grain grinder belt for a tractor to the museum. Several old benches and tables have been repainted. Helping with the outdoor projects were Eric Green, Tony LaRue and Jason Rowh.
The Historical Society has been contacted for information on how best to preserve the old Sol Rees Buildings. They and the windmill are the next projects to finish. We received a letter from Representative Jerry Moran about available grants for museum. A quote from his letter is, "Thank you for being a steward of our state's history and culture. Preserving our heritage is key to ensuring the future of Kansas and expanding our reputation as a great place to live and raise a family." We thank him for his interest in Kansas Museums.
The next meeting is Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. The public is invited to these

meetings.
Mike Tacha was in a farm accident last Friday afternoon. He was taken to Oberlin hospital and later flown to Wichita.
Friday evening, Wayne and Louise Cressler went to Phillipsburg to visit her sister Leotha Bohl in the Phillips County Hospital. Leotha had a stroke Thursday morning.
Alice Lemons, Salt Lake City, Utah, and Neta Thrasher, Olathe visited last weekend with Frances Bader. The ladies are sisters-in-law of Frances.
Jennings American Legion Post is serving a Ham-Bean and Cornbread Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 28 from noon to 2 p.m. at the Sunflower Senior Center. Free will offering is being taken.
Auction of the Athletic Field owned by the City of Jennings will be held Monday, Oct. 29 at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Hall. The Jennings City Council will meet Thursday, Nov. 8 instead of Nov. 1 at the Sunflower Senior Center.

ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE
The Almena Community Junior PRIDE met on Wednesday, Oct. 3 in the Northern Valley cafeteria at 3:10 p.m. Fleta Hanlon, senior PRIDE president, and Keith VanSkike, Norton County Extension agent, were present besides Junior PRIDE members.
Amy Shearer, president, opened the meeting. The secretary's minutes were read by acting secretary and treasurer Amanda Turman. The minutes were accepted as read. The first item on the agenda was deciding to elect a separate secretary and treasurer. Amanda was elected secretary and Jessica Largent treasurer.
Mr. VanSkike conducted the installation of the following officers — Amy Shearer, president; Hutch Gehrke, vice president; Amanda Turman, secretary; and Jessica Largent, treasurer. During the ceremony, Mr. VanSkike had a container of sand bags, which he gave to Amy to hold. It was very heavy! As each of the other officers were installed, they helped hold up the basket. It was easy to tell, as each helped with the load, it was much lighter.
Twelve members attended the first meeting (as postponed from last week). The regular meeting is the fourth Wednesday of each month. Committee reports were given. The "Welcome to Almena" sign is nearly ready to put up. It just needs to be touched up and can possibly be worked on after football and before basketball starts. Karen Washburn, Senior PRIDE member, will help with this project. They will soon have their own account separate from

the Senior PRIDE.
Amy reported that she, Tyler Montgomery and Zane Miller helped Eldo Graham put timbers around the swings in Bantam Park to hold in the sand.
Next meeting at the regular time, 3:10 to 3:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday, Nov. 28. The meeting was adjourned. Reported by Fleta Hanlon, a Junior PRIDE sponsor. Mr. Griffith, Northern Valley superintendent, is also a sponsor. Keith VanSkike is the Kansas State Extension leader for Lenora and Almena PRIDE and the Norton County 4-H organizations. They will need to have Fleta's name on each check along with either the president or treasurer.
The Almena community lost another friend last week with the death of Evelyn Griffin. Our sympathy goes out to her family.
Alice Kuiper accompanied the Porters to Scott City last weekend to help watch the grandkids while Sara Hawkins, who is an occupational therapist at Scott City, hosted a table at a wellness clinic. She is starting to help people with low vision be able to live in their homes. The grandparents had a good time reading stories, playing games and singing songs. Janet and Alice did the cooking and feeding everyone. Sara said it was nice to have the meals cooked.
The Porters and Alice returned back to Norton County last Sunday morning in time for church at Lenora. Alice returned home in the afternoon.
A few weeks ago, Alberta Geil drove to Garden City to visit her son and his family, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Geil and sons.

NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS
Sympathy is extended to the family of Jeanette Craig Largon, who died Sept. 30. Graveside services were held Oct. 5 at Evergreen Memorial Gardens at Vancouver, Wash. Survivors include her husband, Jim; a son, Michael and a daughter, Christine; two sisters, Imogene Craig Alexander and Genevieve Craig Shuler. Her parents, C. W. and Alma Craig; three sisters, Stella, Lucille and Louetta, and three brothers, Wayne, Doyle and Virgle Craig, preceded her in death.
There will be a benefit potluck supper at 6 p.m. on Saturday at the Lyle Community Building to help with upkeep and utilities of the building. There will be music by Dwight Wood and his group, along with skits and readings. Everyone is welcome.
Senior Citizens will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 2, at the Educational Building.
Birthdays include Lori Roe, Oct. 17, and Virgil Price, Oct. 20.
Vearl Sparkman and her two daughters went to Chickasha, Okla., where they met her sister, Mary King; her son, Jim, and Vearl's great-nephew, Jared and her great-great-nephew, Joeie, who is 16, for the first time. They attended the Chapel School reunion in Lindsay, Okla., where she graduated from eighth grade. She won the prize for being the oldest person there. They also visited the farm where she grew up.
The Lyle and Devizes histories are being written by former pastor,

Charles Keller, a former pastor at the Lyle and Norcatur United Methodist Churches. Part of Mrs. Beebe's responsibilities was home missions. Knowing cold winter months were coming and many Lyle settlers were destitute, she applied to Methodist Home Missionary Service for all the warm clothing they could send. Clothes arrives in barrels and were distributed according to need. Other history can also be found in histories.
Megan and Blake Hillebrand hosted a 25th wedding anniversary party and dance for their parents, Frank and Susan Hillebrand on Saturday at the Eagles Club in Norton.
Bee Nelson, Mary Lesle, Oran and LaVerne Milner and Dorothy Ward attended the benefit spaghetti dinner for the city building roof repair, which was served by the Decatur Chamber of Commerce. Bee Nelson, Dorothy Ward and LaVerne Milner also attended the Clayton church supper and bazaar.
Ted and Ethel Hansen will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct. 28.
Barbara Price Thrush, formerly of Norcatur, is receiving hospice treatment and mail will reach her at St. John's Hospice, 1320 Everet Court, Lakewood, Colo., 80215.
The museum is looking for obituaries of people who are buried at the Norcatur Cemetery and Lyle Cemetery, especially after Sept. 1, 1998, as the cemetery book that Olive Keener put together is being updated. They may be sent to Norcatur Museum, P.O. Box 89, Norcatur, Kan., 67653, c/o Chris Dempewolf.

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