

# Will You Claim Your Prize?

"Ladies and gentlemen, we are at the home of Mrs. Lottie Luck. Mrs. Luck you have just won the Ten Million Dollar Sweepstakes! What is your reaction to this incredible news?"

"I don't want it. Now go away."

Does this story sound believable to you? "No!" you say? Incredibly,

many of us turn down a prize much greater than money. We turn down the chance to have our Heavenly Father in our hearts because we do not take advantage of His promises to us, His children. Some of us are not aware of God's promises. We read in Hebrews 10:35-36... Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great

reward. For you have need of endurance, so that you may do the will of God and receive what is promised."

When we worship God each week at our chosen church or synagogue, we can learn of His promises to us. Don't refuse your prize. Claim it this Sabbath as you come to know your Creator.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Psalm	Psalm	Psalm	Psalm	Psalm	Psalm	Revelation
145	146	147	148	149	150	7:9-17

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society Copyright 2003, Keister-Williams Newspaper Services, P. O. Box 8005, Charlottesville, VA 22906, www.kwnews.com

Weekly Sermonette

### By Kathy Aeillo

Phillippians 4:4-7 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

As I write this there are lots of changes taking place in my life. There was a time in my life, not all that long ago, when death of a loved one or change in employment status would have made me fret but the presence of Jesus Christ in my life has helped me see everything in a much different light.

Paul wrote this letter to the church at Philippi from his prison cell. He had formed this church and it was thriving. They had sent him a gift to ease his poverty so he was writing to thank them and to encourage them in their faith. The feeling that is most evident in this letter is joy. Though he was in jail and very poor, Paul was filled with joy for the faith he had, the faith others showed, the care he was given, and, most importantly, that he was doing God's work.

Paul writes that *in everything* we should give thanks. There are some circumstances in which I think it might be very difficult to give thanks. When a diagnosis of terrible illness is given, when drought doesn't give a crop a chance to grow, when a job opportunity is lost, those are the types of things that might make it difficult to thank God. But even Job, with all his woes, told his wife that, since they accepted the good things from God, they must also accept the bad things.

God doesn't cause bad things to happen but, when they do, we have a chance to grow in our faith, to reach out to God for the strength and courage we need to get through the hard times. God is with us, in us and around us, constantly, loving us and caring for us. We simply need to pray for awareness of His presence.

In a few days we'll celebrate Thanksgiving Day. The list of things for which we give thanks is long indeed - life, family, friends, food, shelter. Even the poorest in this country have so much more than tens of thousands in other parts of the world. As we sit down to celebrate with our families and friends, let's remember to pray for those who have no meal to eat nor place to live.

Even if it seems you have little for which to be thankful, thank God anyway. Remember that, if we can turn to God with prayer and thanksgiving, no matter what the circumstances, we will be blessed with that peace that passes all understanding.

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## NORCATUR NEV

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made since the first of the year.

Lee and Lora Arnold attended

talented young folks presented a

very inspiring worship service.

on Nov. 9, Rea and Dee Magers

enjoyed visiting with Bill Malone

of Strasburg, Colo. He is a former

a fracture of her left leg and was

taken to McCook for surgery. She

is doing well and has been trans-

ferred to the Good Samaritan Cen-

ter in Oberlin, where she will be

undergoing rehabilitative therapy.

has a new minister, Pastor Kathy

Aeillo, from Almena. She will be

doing services in Norcatur from 9-

9:45 a.m. Sunday School will be

from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. Everyone

There are only a few weeks left

items for the drawing, please con-

tact Deb Marshall or Chris

Dempewolf. Any monetary con-

tribution or item can be left at the

Norcatur City office. This event is

sponsored by the Norcatur Pre-

school. The Decatur Community

High School band department will

be wrapping packages from 2:30

a hand-painted cardinal picture to

be hung in the city office. It was

painted by Genevieve Brunk, and

was donated in memory of the

annual United Methodist church

held Nov. 8. There were 164 reg-

istered from Florida, South Caro-

lina, Oklahoma, Missouri, Missis-

A very good crowd attended the

The annual pheasant supper was

Bob and Bonnie Rapp donated

The United Methodist Church

On Nov. 8, Fern Mapes suffered

Norcatur resident.

is welcome.

to 4:30 p.m.

class of 1940.

Kansas.

bazaar on Oct. 25.

While attending the Lyle Bazaar

### By NORCATUR **NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS** Those attending were Estella

Birthdays and anniversaries: Harold, Neoma Tacha, Lora Amy Wentz, Ronald and Gerry Arnold and Dorothy Woods. Temple - Nov. 12; Mary Leslie, R.D. Thornton, Marvin Bailey - church at Jennings on Oct. 26, to Nov. 13; Rea Magers, Howard hear an ensemble from Southwest-Sumner-Nov. 14; Dewaine Stapp, ern College of Winfield. Those Judy Shirley, Troy Marshall - Nov. 17.

Betty Reid returned home Nov. 4 after surgery at the Norton Hospital.

Thirteen attended Senior Citizens on Nov. 7. Winners were Kathy Van Meter, Twila Henry, June Jolly and Beth Johnson. Next meeting will be Friday at 7 p.m.

The News volunteers celebrated the October birthday of Dee Magers and the November birthday of Mary Leslie on Nov. 4. Present were K.G. and Dorothy Ward, Dee Magers, Lorretta Carter, Mary Leslie, Arlene Hix, Lula Hix, Goldie Brewer, Laverne Milner, Joyce Price and Marguerite Clark.

Nov. 6, Oran and Laverne Milner visited Fern Mapes in the McCook hospital and Ivah until the annual Norcatur Christ-Alexander at the Good Samaritan mas drawing. If you or your orga-Centerin Oberlin. Since then Fern nization would like to donate has moved to the Good Samaritan Center.

Jay and Vi Gallentine and Gary Menges spent the last weekend of October in Olathe, helping Connie Lewis celebrate her birthday in her new home, as the very first occupant. They also visited granddaughters Jennifer (Shick) Reynolds and family of Overland Park; Amy (Shick) Yarkoni, Atlanta, Ga.; Randy Gallentine, Arizona; and granddaughters Candace Menges and family, and Renee Menges and family, both daughters of Gary.

Gary Menges is a new resident in Norton, having moved into an apartment there. After living many years in the Kansas City area, he is enjoying living away from the city traffic.

On Oct. 25, Royal Neighbors met at the Good Samaritan Center sippi, Colorado, Nebraska and in Oberlin. They presented the home with nine lap robes they had

### **By HELEN HELM**

The annual bazaar for the Lyle United Methodist Church was held Sunday afternoon There was a good-sized crowd in attendance were 17present for the traditional The ladies were very grateful for turkey and dressing dinner. Their the items donated and the spirited meeting followed the dinner. bidding. The auctioneering was do- Teresa Reves played her hammered nated by Bob Jones and the clerks dulcimer for everyone. It is a beauwere Ruby Cook and Dave Ward. tiful instrument and makes beauti-Kathy Van Meter, Rhonda Jolly, Jennifer Blume and Virgil Price helped with presenting the differentitems for sale. A light lunch followed the auction, giving everyone a chance to visit. Martin and Ceanne Rinehart, Colby, arrived early enough Sunday morning to take Helen and John Helm to Mass at Indianolla, Neb. They had a short visit with Florence and Jerry Uerling at their home and attended the Lyle Bazaar after dinner. Following that they all drove to the Mike Helm home in Norcatur, where Timothy Helm was celebrating his eighth birthday. Grandma and Grandpa Fossum also attended the birthday party. The Star Valley 4-H Club was just finishing their afternoon of leaf-raking with a chili supper at the Mike Helms when the birthday guests arrived so for awhile there was a full house. They had raked leaves at a number of homes in Norcatur. On Monday John Henry Rinehart, Colby, took his grandparents, John and Helen Helm, to the American Legion meeting at Lebanon. Ray and Myrna Haag served a delicious lunch. Aaron Helm read his essay he had written for the Voice of Democracy Veterans of Foreign Wars contest sponsored by the Herndon chapter at Herndon on Veterans Day. He received a second place plaque. Mrs. Kathy Van Meter and Mrs. Margaret Magers played cards at the Good Samaritan Home in Oberlin Monday afternoon with Mrs. Garrah Gaumer and Mrs. Ruth Laidig. Mrs. Van Meter and Mrs. Magers visited Van Cozad at the nursing home in Beaver City Tuesday. He was not feeling as well as they usually find him. On Wednesday afternoon the helping her grandparents at the Liberty Star Club held their Thanksgiving dinner at the Lyle

Community Building. Each year one-half the club fixes dinner for the other plus the guests each invites to join them. This year there ful music. One of the guests, Barb Hitt, joined the club. Mrs. Magers had a"Strain your Brain" quiz which was most entertaining. After the meeting Mrs. Van Meter and Mrs. Magers went to the Good Samaritan Nursing Home to visit Mrs. Marguerite Fullerton, who is now a patient there. She is happy to be where her many friends can visit her and still able to continue with her therapy. The Lyle ladies also visited Fern Mapes who is a new patient there. Mrs. June Jolly played cards in McCook Monday evening and attended a bingo party there Wednesday. Mrs. Magers was the guest of Mrs. Van Meter at a Thanksgiving dinner Thursday evening provided by the First Security Bank of Holbrook in appreciation of their customers.

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They were entertained by the Sweet Adelines of McCook

Repairs on the south door of the Lyle Community Building and caulking the windows were made Thursday afternoon. This will be paid for from the Lyle Community Building Fund.

Mrs. Veda Wood attended a scrapbook party held at the Educational Building at Norcatur hosted by Terese Reves. Callers this week at the Wood home were Dwight Wood and John and Carol Moye.

Donna and Earnest Huff attended the memorial services held for Neil Reeves at Almena Saturday. Sympathy is extended to his family. He and his wife, the former Grace Bell Eckhart, were wellknown in the area.

John and Helen Helm visited Van Cozad Friday afternoon at the nursing home in Beaver City. Both of his daughters, Karla Classsen and Ruth Vise were on hand for a visit.

Rebecca Helm spent Saturday farm.