

The Norcatu Volunteer Fire Department will be having their Pizza Supper fundraiser on Saturday, Jan. 18. This will be for delivery only, and they will deliver out of town. Pizzas can be ordered cooked or uncooked, and are great to put in the freezer for another day.

Orders must be received by Jan. 10. Contact a fire department member to place your order. Members are: Carl Lyon, Doug Dempewolf, Gail Bailey, Darren Wentz, Galen Wentz, Jeff Roe, Rex Knapp, Chris O'Hare, Tom Jakowski, Scott Hartzog, Tad Hartsough, Rod Mathill, and Jerome Schwarz.

New Year's Day dinner guests of Bill and Bee Nelson were Bob Sawdon, Lee Eckhart, and Wayne and Norma McCallister.

Christmas Eve guests of Dorothy and Kenneth Ward were Lora Linn Leichliter; Ronald Leichliter of Colorado Springs, and Rodney, Lisa and Laci Leichliter.

Christmas dinner guests of the Kenneth Wards, at McCook, were Lora Linn and Ronald Leichliter.

Christmas guests of Beth Sebaugh, Oberlin, were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gilcrest and Jeslyn, Leawood; Mr. and Mrs. James Bunney, Garden City, and Jill Bunney who is in graduate school at Cornell University in New York State.

Christmas guests of Marian Dempewolf of Oberlin were Dave and Patty Stapp and family, Doug and Chris Dempewolf and girls, Norcatu; Linda Dempewolf and Dave Schelp, McCook; Bob Dempewolf and Rose Riffle, Oberlin; and Lee and Amber Dempewolf, Colby.

Christmas Day guests of DeWaine Stapp were Dave and Patty Stapp, Kortney, Kaitlyn and Sam, Marian Dempewolf and Derrick Bolliger. New Year's Day guests there were Derrick Bolliger, Brent Olson, Dave and Patty Stapp, Kortney, Kaitlyn and Sam, Norcatu, and Randy and Christopher Stapp, Mount Vernon, Ind.

A.W. and Evelyn Lyon, Barb Goeken and Carl Lyon were guests of Larry and Jodi Lyon on Christmas Day.

Shar Mermis and Gene and their family of Wichita were holiday guests at the Larry Lyon home on Saturday, Dec. 28. Other guests were Barb Goeken, Norton and A.W. and Evelyn Lyon. Terry was unable to come since he is recuperating from recent surgery.

Ted Hansen underwent surgery and will have more major surgery when he is able. His address is 722 Turtleback Road, Unit 2D Mesquite, Nev., 89027, and he would enjoy mail.

The senior citizen potluck supper on Friday, Jan. 3, honored Merle Shirley, who will be moving to Oberlin soon. Winners at cards were Bob Strevey, June Jolly and Margaret Magers. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Friday.

Christmas weekend guests of Virgil and Joyce Price were Keith and Linda Jurey, Albuquerque, N.M. They all went to the home of Jason, Kathy and Connor Jurey in Kennard, Neb. Bob, Lea and Kate Price arrived that evening, and Richard Jurey, Oklahoma City, was also there. Enroute home, the Prices

stopped in Lincoln, Neb., and spent the night with her brother and his wife, Max and Doris Thielbar.

Marguerite Clark enjoyed an early Christmas with Frank and Velda Ward and family, then accompanied Gail and Janet Rippe to Silver Lake, Ind., where she enjoyed a white Christmas with Delmar and Margaret Clark and family, and also visited Glenn and Pearl Alexander.

Velda Ward received word of the death of her cousin, Richard Crabill, on Dec. 18, at his home in MacArthur, Calif. He was born at Norcatu, the son of Chan and Leora Crabill.

Recent weekend guests of Dorothy and Jason Breiner were Michael and sons, Casey and A.J. Richards, of Miltonvale.

Rea and Dee Magers went to Lakewood, Colo., to spend the Christmas holidays with their families. They stayed with Cheri and Bob Pomeroy. Dee's family (Hahn) had their reunion on Christmas Day in the basement hall at Christ on the Mountain Church with 47 family members present. That evening they got together at Bob and Cheri's for a gift exchange. Zach and Matt Pomeroy, and their girl friends, were there also.

On Friday they and the Pomeroy's went to Eaton, Colo., where they had brunch with Bob's folks. En route home on Saturday, they stopped at the Stampede Bison Company on Highway 36 and purchased a buffalo roast to try out on New Year's Day and later said it was delicious.

Bill and Bee Nelson spent the week of Dec. 21 as houseguests of their daughter Tara Nelson and Anita Volskay in Independence, Mo. Todd and Denise Nelson and Garrett, of Wichita, spent Thursday and Friday with them. The Nelsons' trip to Branson, Mo., for their 50th anniversary was canceled due to 14 inches of snow there. They will try again this spring.

Mr. and Mrs. David Johnson of Great Bend spent Christmas week-end with Beth Johnson and Fred, and David got in some deer hunting.

Mr. and Mrs. David Johnson and Beth Johnson drove to Sargent, Neb., for the funeral of Marjorie Slagle Pierce. Beth met her when they were going to school in Kearney, and Marjorie was her maid of honor when she was married in 1950.

Christmas Eve guests of Esther Miller were Gary and Annette Miller of Oberlin, Beverly Morris of Hoxie; Aimee and Chad Applebury, and Casey Morris, Colby; Mike and Jan Miller, Prairie Valley; and Stan, Carol, Joel and Justine Miller, and Merle Shirley.

Mike, Jan and Esther Miller had Christmas Day dinner at Oberlin with Gary and Annette Miller.

Guests at the Lowell Sebaugh home for an early Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 22, were Mark and Terry Cross, Heather and Parker Mogolov, Olathe; Bob, Mary, Kyle, Tyler and Kayla Lough, Wamego; Janice and Rodney O'Hare and Linda and Monty Hunt, Norcatu; Scott, Kristen, Brooklyn, McKenna and Kaden O'Hare, Hillsboro; and Chris, Cody and Nikala O'Hare,

Marci, Danne, Ben and Cassie Wuest of Norton.

## NEW ARRIVAL

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Tavis have a new granddaughter, Madison Jazlyn Tavis, born on Dec. 16. She weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and joins her brother, Dominick, who just turned 1 on Nov. 21. Their parents, Derek and Jennifer Tavis, Grand Island, Neb.

The Quilters had their annual Christmas dinner at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 16. Those attending were Agnes Pruitt, Juanita Eckhart, Beth Johnson, Dorothy Lawn, Lula Hix, Ethel Miller, Arlene and Francis Hix, Oran and LaVerne Milner, Inez and Charles Keller, Lee and Lora Arnold, Jamie, Aunt Sis, and Carol Cook.

Beth Johnson and Cathy Clausen were in Hastings, Neb., for a doctor's appointment on Jan. 1 and 2. En route home they visited Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Molzahn of Napoleon, Neb.

Mr. and Mrs. Oran Milner spent the Christmas holidays in Denver with Bruce Bishop and Vera Bishop. They had a pre-Christmas dinner at the Ken Bishop home, and Christmas dinner at the Bruce Bishop home with family. Thursday visitors at the Bruce Bishop home were George and Wilma Bishop and Ralph and Evelyn Strayer. Minnie Ruth Bailey was a Friday guest for lunch.

The Norcatu Public Library board will meet at 4 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 20. Any board members unable to attend are asked to please let Chris Dempewolf know.

Mother Nature is at us again. First you need your summer clothes and sunscreen, and the next day your long handles.

I want to give everyone who helped make the year 2002 a success a big thank you. Now we can relax a little and catch our breath.

Remember, the annual Chamber Banquet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday at The Gateway. Tickets are on sale at the chamber office for \$12.50 each, or call (785) 475-3441 for reservations. The steaks will be good and I think that the program is going to be very interesting. The

## Chamber News

By Glenva Nichols

DCHS Singers will provide entertainment. There will be a board election and something special to follow.

The chamber will be giving five awards to deserving people throughout the county. This will be a new annual event at the banquet.

Coffee hour this month is from 9 to 11 a.m. Jan. 23 at Decatur Co-op.

Stop by and say hello.

Don't forget the Seeds of Hope Telethon coming Saturday, Feb. 1. They have a lot of things planned for the afternoon and evening. Those of us that have cable television can watch what is happening on channel 7.

Stop by and have a cup of coffee, as the pot is always on.

## Midway News

By Mary Lou Olson

Sympathy is extended to Jim and Doris Gilbert following the death of his sister, Clea Wenger, of Oberlin.

Bob and Sally Olson accompanied Rennie Olson and Scott of Irving, Texas, and Ava Perkins of Wichita to Iowa City, Iowa, where they attended the graduation of their grandsons, David and Jonathan Olson of Swisher, Iowa, at the University of Iowa, on Dec. 21. David graduated with honors with a degree in mechanical engineering. Jonathan Olson earned a degree in electrical engineering and will continue his education to pursue a master's degree. Their parents are Rennie and Jeanne Olson.

Officers elected on Sunday during the annual meeting of the Herndon Covenant Church include: Kyle Grafel, chairman; Barbara

Olson, vice chairman; Cindi Grafel, secretary; Gail Bergling, assistant secretary; Mark Olson, treasurer; Gerald Benda, assistant treasurer; Chris Schmidt and Dale Withington, trustees; Gerald Benda and Richard Anderson, deacons; Patti Benda and Maureen Anderson, deaconesses; Willard Noren and Elden Anderson, auditors; Deanne Spanier, Lori Seaman and Steve Noren, Christian Education board; Margaret McEvoy, financial secretary; Mary Ann Erickson, assistant financial secretary; Kendra Anderson, Sherri Schmidt, Connie Noren, music committee; and Greg Jones, Gary Erickson, Dale Withington, ushers.

Maxine Peebles and Sherri Steinemann of Denver visited Hattie Olson and other relatives over the

weekend. Mrs. Olson returned to Good Samaritan Center in Oberlin on Wednesday from Decatur County Hospital.

Family night will begin at 6 p.m. tonight at the Herndon Covenant Church. Prayer meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mildred Holmdahl in Oberlin.

Gerald and Patti Benda, and Mark and Barbara Olson and family attended the K-State-Texas Tech basketball games in Manhattan on Saturday, both of which were won by K-State.

Mary Lou Olson accompanied Marianna Bendon, Karla Jones and Cecil Hess to Jennings on Saturday, where they attended the open house which honored their cousin, Vendla Tacha, on her 80th birthday at the senior center.

## 'Jesus was a refugee'

By Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler, Faith Lutheran Church, Oberlin

There is another part of the Christmas story whereby the holy family (Mary, Joseph and the child Jesus) had to escape to Egypt to flee the wrath of King Herod and the slaughter of the innocents. Herod ordered his men to kill all the baby boys in and around Bethlehem who were 2 or younger because he was shaken by the Magi's news that a new king had been born (Matthew 2:13-23). The holy family was homeless. Our Lord was a refugee.

Egypt had been both a refuge and a prison for God's people. Here Moses escaped death when Pharaoh murdered the Hebrew babies. From here God rescued the Hebrews to make them a nation and give them a land. Like Moses, Jesus must flee the wrath of a tyrant, and, like the people of Israel, Jesus lived as a foreigner in another land before returning to his home in Nazareth. In doing so, the infant Jesus joins countless child refugees throughout the world, who with their parents live in fear and great need, fleeing modern day King Herods.

There are tens of thousands of refugees who come to the U.S. seeking "a place in the inn" due to economic, political or religious oppression. They have become a casualty of the war on terror-

ism, where often the most helpless suffer. Their hopes to establish a new life have withered along with other refugees: children in detention, survivors of torture, victims of trafficking and asylum seekers. Their needs have been overlooked in the push to increase national security, and their vulnerability is growing; as is the vulnerability of the established immigrant communities — new Americans who enrich our lives with their cultures and feed our economy and work force.

Our country's concerns over national security following 9/11 resulted in scaled-back refugee admissions. The president authorized 70,000 refugees to come to America during the federal fiscal year that ended on Sept. 30. Due to new bottlenecks, only 27,058 refugees actually made it here. The remaining 42,942 men, women and children have been left out. They are innocent victims of persecution who must wait yet another year for rescue, often in desperate and dangerous circumstances. As Christians in response to God's love in Christ, we are called to welcome the stranger and to bring new hope and new life through ministries of service and justice.

Word of God, come, abide with us.

Amen.



## Schedule of Oberlin and area church services:

**OBERLIN SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
785-475-3103

The Rev. Mathew Vazhappilly,  
The Rev. Mr. Stan Chapin,  
MASS: 10 a.m. Sunday

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC, LEOVILLE**  
The Rev. Mathew Vazhappilly  
MASS: 8 a.m. Sunday.

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC, SELDEN**  
The Rev. Mathew Vazhappilly  
MASS: 10 a.m. Sunday

**OBERLIN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
Arlin Cochran, Minister  
539 E. 2nd St., St. Francis  
SATURDAY: Sabbath School, 9:15 a.m.; Saturday Worship, 11 a.m.

**JENNINGS-DRESDEN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JENNINGS**  
Glenn Krebs, pastor  
SUNDAY: Church School, 10 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m.  
**DRESDEN**  
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 9:30 a.m.

**PRAIRIE CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST**  
The Rev. Doug Hasty  
SUNDAY: Church Services, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 8:30 a.m.

**HERNDON IMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
The Rev. Nolan and Barbara Pierce  
SUNDAY: Morning Worship, 10 a.m.

**UNITED CHURCH OF OBERLIN**  
109 North Griffith-American Baptist, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian USA  
Rev. Barbara and/or Nolan Pierce  
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Choir practice every Wed. at 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion, 1st Sun. United Church Women, 2nd Wed at 2 p.m. Parish Council, 2nd Wed. at 8 p.m.  
**OBERLIN COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP (Southern Baptist)**  
Pastor: Bobby Cornelius  
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m. Evening Service, 7 p.m.. WEDNESDAY: Service, 7 p.m.

**OBERLIN UNITED METHODIST**  
102 North Cass — 785-475-3067  
The Rev. Doug Hasty  
SUNDAY: Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m. (Nursery provided.) WEDNESDAY: Choir practice, 7:30 p.m.

**CLAYTON UNITED METHODIST**  
Pastor: Charles Keller  
785-693-4339  
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.

**PIONEER BAPTIST CHURCH Meeting Temporarily at**  
119 S. Cass Ave., Oberlin  
Pastor Steve Smith  
Phone 785-475-3844  
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Morning Service, 11:00 a.m.; Evening Service, 6:00 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Bible Study & Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Visit us on the web at www.pioneerbaptist.org

**OBERLIN ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
The Rev. Royce Leitner  
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible study, 7 p.m. King's Kids, 6:30 p.m.; Youth, 8 p.m. Women's Group, 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 2 p.m.

**OBERLIN CHURCH OF CHRIST Beaver and Mill**  
Bill Duncan — Phone 785-475-3259  
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Hour, 10:45 a.m. Junior Worship, grade 3 & down; 2nd Sundays: All-church dinner. WEDNESDAY: Ladies Home Bible Study, 9 a.m.; Home Bible Studies, 7:30 p.m.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC, HERNDON**  
The Rev. Damian Richards  
Phone 785-322-5560  
MASS: SUNDAY, 8 a.m.

**HERNDON COVENANT CHURCH**  
Keith Reuther, Pastor  
Phone 785-322-5316  
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Bible study, 7 p.m.

**NORCATU UNITED METHODIST**  
Pastor: Charles Keller  
785-693-4339  
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Church School, 10:30 a.m.

**LYLE UNITED METHODIST**  
Pastor: Charles Keller  
785-693-4339  
SUNDAY: Morning Worship 8 a.m.

**EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF OBERLIN**  
The Rev. Heidi Wiebe  
810 West Cedar, Oberlin  
Office Phone 785-475-2769  
SUNDAY: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship Time, 10 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m. TUESDAY: Bible Study, 7 p.m.; WEDNESDAY: Worship Celebration, 7:30 P.M.

**LUND COVENANT CHURCH**  
Pastor: Tom Smith  
10 miles south, 4 miles west of Oberlin  
SUNDAY: Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. SATURDAY: Men's breakfast & Bible Study, 7 a.m.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
The Rev. Chad M. Eckels, Pastor  
785-475-2333  
Share the Faith — as for me and my household we will serve the Lord!  
SUNDAY: Sunday School and Bible class, 9:15 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Adult Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. WEDNESDAY: Quilters 9 a.m.; Midweek School, 4-7 p.m. THURSDAY: Information Class, 7 p.m.

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
404 North York Avenue  
Oberlin, Kansas  
Pastor Charlotte Strecker-Baseler  
Church Office Phone: 785-475-2053  
SUNDAY: Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship and Educational Hour, 10:45 a.m. Holy Communion first and third Sundays. Congregation Council, third Sunday, 10:45 a.m. Youth Group, first and third Sundays, 10:45 a.m. WEDNESDAY: Confirmation class, 6:30 p.m.; Women's Bible Study second Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

## Good Samaritan News

Children from the day care joined residents to make "fun foam" creations. Those attending were Lorna Bishop, Ruby McKenna, Elfie Brown, Bonnie Weskamp, Helen Styles, and Agnes Chambers.

Cleaning of the aquarium was supervised by Elfie Brown, Helen Styles, Elsie Macy and Pauline Zander. Myrna Jones provided music for social hour, and Reminisce Corner focused on creating things from the past. Garrah Gaumer shared a hatbox made from things of sentimental meaning.

Windmobiles were created by residents on Tuesday from old cards, dowel sticks, and yarn.

Dennis Brown of the Forget-Me-Nots served pizza to guests Dena Gillespie, Garrah Gaumer, Florence Jones, Pauline Zander, Colleen Rippe and Irene Powell. Volunteer Fern Moore shared reading time with residents and volunteer Samuel Smith served social hour.

Ruby McKenna and family invited Ivah Alexander for an afternoon of Skip-Bo. Reminisce Corner gathered to talk about "Chicken and Pickin," a family-owned business in Stark.

Bible study was held Wednesday morning, and nail care was provided in the afternoon. Reminisce time was held out on the patio to enjoy the nice weather, attended by Elfie Brown, Garrah Gaumer, Neva Campbell, Pauline Zander, and Vergie Nygren. Bingo concluded

the evening.

Susan Nelson brought several students from the Decatur Community High School music department on Thursday morning, who provided music during devotions. Leah Marietta, Ren Unger and Lindsey Fortin shared gospel songs. Craft time was shared by children from Little Sam's Day Care and residents, and Ellen Horn served social hour.

The Revs. Barbara and Nolan Pierce led communion service. Current events were read by Dennis Brown, and craft fun with old Christmas cards was enjoyed. Friday's movie feature was "Wild West Women."

Dennis Brown led devotions on Saturday, with piano accompaniment provided by Garrah Gaumer. Don Stapp served social hour.

On Sunday, church services were led by Sacred Heart Catholic Church. A birthday party for Marilyn St. Clair was held assisted by Shirley Nichols. Friends and family also attended.

Recent guests: Garrah Gaumer - Joan McKenna; Ruby McKenna - Joan McKenna, Donna and Anita Chambers, Ed and Gloria McKenna, Earl and Pat Hartzog, Harold Hartzog; Dena Gillespie - June Vavroch; Dorothy Wolters - Elsie Wolters; Hazel Flaska - Charlene Keernes; Pauline Zander - Wilma May; Hattie Olson - Maxine Peebles, Sherri Steinemann.

These sponsors urge you to attend church regularly:

**Herndon Insurance Agency**

Ron Beims, Agent  
785-322-5331  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

**Fair Chiropractic Clinic**

"For Better Health Naturally"  
504 N. Penn  
Oberlin, Kansas  
Phone 785-475-2219

**Norcatu Grain Inc.**

Grain-Fertilizer-Feed  
785-693-4321  
"Your Caterer from Norcatu"

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Phone 785-475-2785