



# Lighthouse of Iowa

*Keeping in touch with Iowa's Churches of Christ*

January 2018

## A Weary World Rejoices!

*Luke 2:7-20*

We live one day at a time. In fact, life goes by so fast it may be more reasonable to say we live one year at a time. 2017 went by very quickly, but quite honestly I am not going to miss it.

2017 was a noisy year! Politics, wars, natural disasters and changes of all kinds in the world and in our daily lives. But as things settle down in 2018, there does appear to be a more positive view on the horizon.

For one, it may not be a 'criminal' offense to be a Christian in 2018. Though the courts are still out on that one, there is reason to be optimistic. The tone of the nation seems to be leaning a little more towards seeking spiritual grace than demanding self-gratification.

Such a turn things have taken this past year! Who would have thought that a headline like this would be possible in the *Washington Post*?

*"Top Trump administration officials flock to weekly Bible study classes at White House".*

~ Washington Post, August 1, 2017

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2017/08/01/top-trump-administration-officials-flock-to-weekly-bible-study-classes-at-white-house/?utm\\_term=.c40c0da9a188](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2017/08/01/top-trump-administration-officials-flock-to-weekly-bible-study-classes-at-white-house/?utm_term=.c40c0da9a188)

How did that happen? Is that even a real headline? Who would have ever guessed? It causes me to look up to Heaven remembering the words of Daniel, *"The most high God rules in the kingdom of men, and He appoints over it whomsoever He will."*

It may at first thought seem not possible, but the truth is God does many great things for His people, even influencing the powers of this world for the Church.

### MY ROLE IN THE WORLD

The Lord will take care of the world as He sees fit. Our key role in it is to pull as many souls *out* of it as we can.

*"Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:*

*And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.*

**Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.**

And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not." Isaiah 6

As God gave Adam the Garden of Eden to enjoy as well as the responsibility of tending to it, so we too have the Lord's Kingdom to enjoy and are responsible for it.

Looking around, is it not reasonable to ask, *Is there a growing momentum in the nation towards the things of Christ, that with faith and prayer we can build on? Are the fields of our nation actually "white already to harvest"? Are people's hearts changing?*

Just last week, and every year during the holidays the Christmas carols that people sing throughout the nation also testify that the answer is *yes*.

Across the entire country we could hear **God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen** with lyrics singing of Christ's birth and how He came *"to save us all from Satan's power for we have gone astray. O tidings of Comfort and Joy!"*

**O Holy Night** sings of the misery the world is in because of sin and yet when Christ appeared *"the soul felt its worth"!* And with Christ *"a thrill of hope"* was given causing a *"weary world"* to rejoice.

It's there. Christ said that when He is lifted up He would draw all men to Him.

### GOD WITH US

That is actually the Son of God's name in prophecy. Emmanuel, "which being interpreted is, *God with us.*"

And if God be for us and even with us, nothing can stand against us. What is possible with God? What is possible to them that believe?

The answer to both those questions is *"All things."* Even the converting of this weary world.



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## Chariton

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m. (no evening services)

**Location:** 15<sup>th</sup> & Roland, Chariton, Iowa

**For information call:** Albert Schreck (641) 535-2381 or Brian Schreck (641) 535-2931

- Several of our members have had various illnesses this past month.
- Our services were cancelled the 24th and 31st due to weather conditions.
- Brian and Tammy Schreck traveled to the Kansas City area to visit family and attended services at Lone Jack.

### January Birthdays

- ★ 3 - Jeanette Schreck
- ★ 13 - Mary Jo Riekens

### January Anniversaries

- Non

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## Dean Avenue

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 2907 Dean Ave., Des Moines, Iowa / P.O. Box 57398, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

**For information call:** John McNeece (515) 263-9428

- We no longer have a mailbox at our building.  
**Our new mailing address is:**  
*Dean Avenue Church of Christ  
P. O. Box 57398  
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327*
- **Neal Warren has had a stroke and spent several days in the VA Hospital.** Some of the time was spent in ICU because of A-fib. He is home now, but has fallen twice. Prayers for Neal and Peg would be appreciated.
- **Earl Allen had outpatient testing, and it was determined he has cancer cells in his right kidney.** He is scheduled for surgery to remove the right kidney and ureter on January 2, 2018. He will be in Methodist Hospital for a few days. Please pray for Earl.
- **Mary Lou Allen had blood clots in one of her legs, and received medication for them.** She is doing better. She is receiving oxygen when needed.

- **Risa Schamel's husband, Skip, was having bad leg pain. He had an angiogram, and it was determined he had several blood clots.** He was given treatment and rechecked the next day for blood flow. He was in the hospital for three days and needs to be on blood thinner medication.
- **Visitors:** Tom Warren, Bill, Bryan, Max and Tally Charlier, Piper Thatcher, Camdyn Quijano, Chloe Prenosil, Aiden and Paxon Boozell, Tisha Wells, Orabelle Conway and Lucille Warren.

### January Birthdays

- ★ 19 Conner Wilkins
- ★ 23 Mary Lou Allen
- ★ 28 Debbie Wilkins

### January Anniversaries

- None

## Fairview

**Meeting times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 1001 S. 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Clarinda, Iowa 51632

**For information call:** Richard Negley (712)542-3728 or Marvin Negley (712)542-2792

- Dec 10 & 17 Paul Negley & daughter Minka were with us
- Jack and Bobbie Swisher left for Florida first of Dec.
- Van and Molly Gilmore & girls were with us on the 17th

- Our sympathy is extended to Tracy & Justin Head on the sudden death of her uncle Kevin, also to his mother Martha McNeese

### January Birthdays

- None

### January Anniversaries

- None
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## Martensdale

**Meeting Times:** Sundays: 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 10985 44th Lane, Prole, Iowa (1.5 miles east of Martensdale, Iowa on Hwy. 92)

**For information call:** Duane Proudfit (515) 961-4470 or Mike Penick (515) 681-0279

- **A few of us braved the weather conditions and gathered at the home of Dave and Christy Henderson to ring in the New Year.**
- Tiffany Parker's grandmother, Louise, worshiped with us while visiting Tiffany.
- Amelia Rogers has been attending services while spending time with Rodney and Alena Ingle.
- Alyssa Twadell worshipped with us while visiting Maddy Hermon.
- Drew and Courtney Teghtmeyer and Tiffany Parker traveled to Missouri and Tanner George traveled to Illinois to spend time with family during the holidays.
- Kirk and Bethany Ford have visited a few times this month and worshipped with us while visiting Dave and Christy Henderson.

- Aiden Twadell was on a break from boot camp and attended services with his fiance, Maddy Hermon.
- Jordan Bown attended services while home visiting her family.
- We were blessed with several visitors the morning of January 31. They were Steve and Cerine Proudfit and their girls; Dennis, Cindy and Daniel Stanley; Jarod Groves; Kathleen Dideon; Nathan Williamson; and Faith Fenton.

### January Birthdays

- ★ 9 - Hugh Ingle

### January Anniversaries

- None
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## Pleasant Hill

**Meeting Times:** Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** 5091 E. University, Pleasant Hill, Iowa

**Website:** [pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org](http://pleasanthillchurchofchrist.org)

**For information call:** Bob Flack (515) 262-7329, Lowell Hermon (515) 989-0727, Mike Warner (515) 967-4529.

- **Congratulations to Ryan and Jamie Ingle are officially Patrick Josiah parents.** Patrick was adopted on Dec. 2 at Polk County's Adoption Day. Patrick has been with them for the past 18 months.
- **Word was received that Larry Hammer of Riverside, Mo congregation passed away on Sat. evening (December 16<sup>th</sup>).** Larry is the husband of Valeta Fritz formally of the Des Moines area. Visitation and Funeral were held on Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Mary Fillman spent 3 days in the hospital with irregular heartbeat. Mary has had her heart shocked back into rhythm.** She is home and doing better. Bud had several skin cancers removed. Please keep them in your prayers.
- **Joyce Ingle's father, Roy Whanger, and her and brother, Deryl Whanger, had been hospitalized. Roy was then taken to a nursing home. Deryl is still in intensive care.** Please keep these men in your prayers.
- **Marisa Schriber granddaughter of Mike and Shirley Warner has an erupted ear drum and has been very sick.** Please keep her in your prayers.
- Great grandma Ingle had a cookie party for Grace, Emily, Taylor and Joe Harvey and their mother Jamie. Nora Lee told the children what it was like to live as a child, without electricity.
- Suzanne Harvey fell and cracked a rib. Please keep Suzanne and Bruce in prayers.
- Connie Price and Niko Felice were sick and Suzanne Harvey was having eye problems.
- Jane Morgan is waiting for some test and is in pain.
- Marty Williamson had surgery on his hand/thumb.
- Bruce Harvey was in Florida helping an aunt celebrate her birthday.
- Betty Warren has been sick.
- Mike Warner was having back problems again and is better.
- Bob Flack is has fighting a cold.
- Pam Sorensen was visiting with Erica Goltra and family.
- Don and Wanda Burkman and family celebrated the holiday season on Sat. Dec. 16th. The little great grandchildren played outside like it was summer. There were 22 of us and we had a wonderful time together.
- Don Burkman, Julene Pappan and Kelly George have been sick.
- Nick Hermon and Kaley Zimmerman are traveling to Colorado.
- Tom and Fred Brady are back from Florida.
- Ryan and Jamie Ingle and family spent time in Missouri with Jamie's family.
- Kelly and Allison George and family will travel to the Grand Canyon during school break.
- Randy Spinney is visiting family in Ohio.
- Marty and Lisa Williamson spent a few days in Branson.
- Jason and Theresa Brady were attending a conference.
- Chip and Jennifer Albright and girls spent some time in Kansas visiting with family.
- Brandon Ingle was vacationing in Mexico.
- Bruce and Suzanne Harvey will be traveling to Florida to visit with family.

**January Birthdays**

- ★ 1 Denise Waits
- ★ 28 Tom Brady
- ★ 31 Doug Bown

**January Anniversaries**

- ★ 8 Cliff & Rosanne Van Vleet
- ★ 31 John & Sharon Mineart

## Vandalia

**Meeting Times:** Sundays: 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. ♦ Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m.  
**Location:** 2.5 miles east of Runnells, Iowa on F70, then 1 mile north on 131st St.  
**Website:** vandaliacoc.com  
**For information call:** Greg Ingle (515) 994-2824 or Charles Ingle (515) 966-2537

- It was a quiet month at Vandalia.  
No news.

**January Birthdays**

- ★ 1 Lincoln Fiorentin
- ★ 5 Mary Ellen Goode
- ★ 10 Emma Ingle

- ★ 11 Lillian Dowdy
- ★ 16 Blake Fiorentin
- ★ 18 Jessi Henle
- ★ 19 Richard Goode

**January Anniversaries**

- ★ 1 Jason & Mariha Henle

## *What's in the Bible?*

*The Book contains the mind of God,  
the state of man,  
the way of salvation,  
the doom of sinners,  
and the happiness of believers.*

*Its Doctrines are holy,  
its precepts are binding,  
its histories are true,  
and its decisions are immutable.*

*Read it to be wise,  
Believe it to be safe,  
Practice it to be holy,  
Teach it to be saved.*

*It possesses  
Light to direct you,  
Food to strengthen you,  
and Comfort to cheer you.*

*What's in the Bible? (continued)*

**It serves as**

*the Traveller's map,  
the Pilgrim's staff,  
the Pilot's compass,  
the Soldier's sword,  
and the Christian's charter.*

**In its pages**

*Paradise is restored,  
Heaven opened,  
and the Gates of Hell destroyed.*

**It should**

*Fill the memory,  
Rule the heart,  
Rejoice the spirit,  
and Guide the feet.*

**Read it slowly,**

*frequently,  
and prayerfully.*

**It is given to you in life,**

*will be opened in the Judgement,  
and will be in Heaven forever.*

**It encompasses**

*the highest responsibility  
will reward the greatest labor,  
and will condemn all who trifle with its Sacred contents.*

**Christ is its Grand Object,**

*Our good, its Design,  
And the Glory of God, its end.*

*Author Unknown*

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Select 'LIBRARY' and then from the dropdown menu select 'Iowa Lighthouse'.

Copies of the *Lighthouse of Iowa* are also available at the Vandalia Church of Christ website.

Go to [www.vandaliaoc.com](http://www.vandaliaoc.com) and select 'Lighthouse of Iowa' from the top menu.

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