

# Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



## WEEKLY SERMONETTE

### Birds of a Feather Flock Together — By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church

Many in America will tell you that they are Christians because they believe in Jesus Christ. Others attempt to proclaim their faith in Him by becoming members of a local church that they may or may not regularly attend. They have convinced themselves as long as they occasionally do what appears to be religious they are making a proclamation of being disciples of Christ. Thus, many find themselves only producing a form of godliness, yet denying the power of the true God in their lives.

Jesus gives this approach to witnessing, "A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35) God's word gives clear instructions on how to fulfill Jesus' commandment to "Love One Another." A foundational Scripture is Rom. 12:10, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another." (KJV)

The heart of a true child of God who is led of the Holy Spirit realizes that his purpose is to love and express a life that honors the Lord so that those in this world may know that he is a disciple of Christ. People by nature observe what is lived out before them. There is a powerful truth which says, "The people you associate

with and allow to influence your life indicate who or what your gods are."

Naturalists have observed that Canadian Geese have a strong sense of family dedication. Both parents defend and provide for the young. Often several parents in family groups will join together in taking care of the little goslings. Those who study Canadian Geese have been intrigued by their loyalty to fam-

ily groups which stay very close together even within large flocks. If a bird becomes ill or injured during migration and cannot continue with the flock, a few family members will go down with the unhealthy bird to keep it safe while it recuperates. Only when the injured bird is ready to fly or succumbs to death will the healthy geese take off again. God has placed within these geese what is needed for

their individual survival and for the existence of the entire flock. These natural instincts are given to them by their Creator.

Usually Canadian Geese are seen with other Canadian Geese, Snow Geese with other Snow Geese and sparrows with other sparrows. The title of this devotion is taken from a familiar saying that all of you have heard and know the meaning of, "Birds of a feather flock together." The Creator of the heavens and earth has given all that a man needs to know for abundant life in His Word, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing..." (Hebrews 10:25)

As people observe your life, who do they see you fellowship with? Which flock do they see you joining? Are you seen mostly with those who desire and hunger for the Word of God? With those who are striving to meet the needs of others raising up and protecting new believers in Christ? Are you seen as someone who takes every opportunity to do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of God? (Galatians 6:10) Do you prefer to be with the Body of Christ and to be seen as having the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus? If not, surrender to God's call today; receive Christ to be both Savior and Lord of your heart and life! Become a true disciple of Christ!

## Sweet to the Soul



**H**ow lightly the pianist's hands rest on each ivory key, knowing just when to pause or to crescendo in order to bring forth the most beautiful sound.

True finesse never comes without a lot of hard work. How do we sustain the determination it takes to perfect our technique? In Philippians 4:13, we read... "I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

Do you know people who seem to practice peace and contentment? Do they possess a resilience you would like to have in your life? Visit your house of worship this week. Our Father can help us accomplish our goals, and ... "A longing fulfilled is sweet to the soul..." (Proverbs 13:19).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mark 4:21-41	Mark 5:1-20	Mark 5:21-43	Mark 6:1-29	Mark 6:30-56	Mark 7:1-23	Mark 7:24-37

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society  
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## NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

Lincoln Jeffery Vahling was born Dec. 17 to Jeff and Kathleen Vahling, Hays. He has a brother Matthew and two sisters, Allison and Sidney. His grandparents are Russ and Marcia Aumiller, New Almelo and the late Bill Vahling.

Visitors at the home of Marion and Lorraine Long on Christmas Eve day were Will and Regan Long, Naples, Fla. Joining Marion and Lorraine for dinner on Christmas were Roger and JoAnn Long, New Almelo; Joe and Rose Ann Long, Christy Long and Joey and Beth Tillery, Leawood; Tom and Jan Long, Hays; Irene Schieferecke, McPherson; Roger Schieferecke, Lafayette, La.; Gary and Carolyn Long, Adam and Traci, Hill City; Leonard and Joan Long, Zach and Alina, Logan; Mike and Barb Long and baby Charlie, Kansas City. The days after Christmas, visitors were Rita Barker, Hays and JoAnn Long, New Almelo; and Joanie Winkel and Bethany and Brooklin, Norton. New Year's weekend Floyd and Karen Long and Sammy, Kimball, Neb., were visitors. Monday after New Years Mark and Gerry Baalmann, Grinnel; and Leonard Long, Logan ate dinner with the Longs.

Family coming for the Christmas weekend to the home of Marion and Marilyn Otter were Tina and Will Ritter and family, Olathe; Tom Otter, DeSoto; Mark Otter, Ashly, Alisha, Anna, Marshall, Ulysses (Sheila had to work); Jolene and Jim Moss and family, Jewell; Karl Otter, Great Bend; Charles Otter, Saige and Cury, Salina. Joining them for an evening meal were Gary and Bertie Bruinekool, Lenora; Ceena Owens and Franklin, Galveston, Texas; Renee Bruinekool and Kurt Persinger, Norton.

Family coming to spend Christmas with Deacon Stan and Sonya Chapin and Roth Chapin were Ranel and Kevin Becker, Bridgett and Brandon Springs, Texas; Regan and Paul Blanchard, Kyle and Erin, Ekron, Ky.

Brenda and Larry Fought, Oberlin, visited at the home of John and Becky Linden on Monday. Brenda recently had a heart transplant in Denver. She is recovering.

Raymond and Bonita Slipke and family were guests at the home of Dustin and Crystal McClurg and family, Logan, for the family Christmas.

Also present were Vicki and Glen Kendall, Phillipsburg and Frank McClurg, Logan. On Christmas Day, Raymond and Bonita and family were the hosts for the Slipke family Christmas at their home in New Almelo. Joining them were Edwin and Mirian

Slipke, Hoxie; Mike and Kathy Slipke, Downs; Sarah Slipke, Concordia; Cheryl and Ryan Goheen, Pratt; Linda and Ron Baumberger, Heather and Kendra, Salina; William and Michelle Slipke and family, Hoxie; Alan and Phyllis Slipke, Topeka; and Marvin and Mary Wudtke, Norton.

Russ and Marcia Aumiller and Josh Vahling celebrated Christmas with his mother, Bernita Aumiller, Selden. On New Years weekend they were guests at the home of Jeff and Kathleen Vahling and family, Hays. Also present were Jeremy and Missy Rumback, Nicole and Jaelyn, Lenora.

John and Becky Linden and boys and Doris Linden, Norton, were Christmas guests at the home of Frank and Sheryl Linden and family, Goodland. Also present were Kevin and Rosella Ryser and Kylie, Sharon Springs. On New Years Day John and Becky, Brett and Brian visited at the home of Kevin and Rosella to make the acquaintance with a new nephew, Jaden Jay Ryser born Dec. 27, weighing 7 pounds 6 ounces.

Family coming for Christmas at the home of Alfred and Betty Otter were Tina and Will Ritter and family, Olathe; Tom Otter, DeSoto; Mark Otter, Ashly, Alisha, Anna, Marshall, Ulysses (Sheila had to work); Jolene and Jim Moss and family, Jewell; Karl Otter, Great Bend; Charles Otter, Saige and Cury, Salina. Joining them for an evening meal were Gary and Bertie Bruinekool, Lenora; Ceena Owens and Franklin, Galveston, Texas; Renee Bruinekool and Kurt Persinger, Norton.

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## JENNINGS NEWS

By LOUISE CRESSLER

Allan Carter, Overland Park visited last weekend with his parents William and Rachel Carter.

United Methodist Women meet Jan. 4 with six members present: Kay Brown, Helen Rhodes, Rachel Carter, Vendla Tacha, Glenda Johnson and Louise Cressler. A brief business meeting was held. Kay Brown gave a lesson "Prayer and Self-Denial". The women feasted on homemade bread and water. Helen Rhodes gave Quiet Moments.

Judy Nusse, Maumelle, Ariz., spent several days the past week with Bob and Neoma Tacha. She is the daughter of Marjorie Tacha and a niece of Bob and Neoma.

Jennings City Council met Jan. 5 with all councilmen and two guests present. Year-end bills were paid. Annexation is still being worked out. Concerns were expressed about gravel being pulled

on to the paved streets from grading the alleys. It was reported that the sewer work is not completed yet. Tyler Bolt is still working on the box covers for the sewer. An adjustment was made on a resident's water bill. A large amount of water was used due to a leak from a broken washing machine hose. Concerns over the city's water loss total was discussed. Items needed for Emergency Preparedness and a cabinet to store them in were addressed. The contractor for the highway work through town is setting up their mixing plant east of Jennings. Work is to be done in the spring.

Funeral services for Eleanor Edgett were held Jan. 2 in Jennings with burial in the Big Timber cemetery. Eleanor and Henry Edgett were former Jennings residents.

## ALMENA NEWS

By ESTHER MARBLE

Christmas Eve guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hardy of Norton were Seth, Jason, Heather, Nathan and Kristen Hardy; Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hardy, Kyle, Erinn, Evann and Devontay, Goodland; Mr. and Mrs. Mike Hardy, J.D. and David, Larned; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Long, Hays; Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Christensen, Laural and Weston, Mr. and Mrs. Don Covington, Almema; Philip Covington, Loften and Parson, Arkansas; Mr. and

Mrs. Bob Covington, Julie Hilburn, Jesse, Joni, Jasmine, Almema; Mr. and Mrs. James Covington, Lawrence; J.B. Covington and two friends, Phillipsburg and Carol Hrabe, Almema.

Bill Godfrey visited Harold Shearer and Esther Marble a short while Monday morning on his way home from a dentist appointment in Norton.

Ellis and June Fisher visited Esther Marble Monday afternoon.

## PRAIRIE VIEW

By VIVIAN JANSONIUS

Christmas visitors at the home of Hazel Jansonius were Mr. and Mrs. LeWayne Jansonius, Stilwell; Sara Jansonius, Nashville, Tenn.; Mr. and Mrs. Dustin Weant, Overland Park; Jennifer and Jani Jansonius, Kansas City; Jacob Jansonius and friend, Moriah, Golden, Colo.; Rodney Jansonius and Rick and Elaine Jones, Phillipsburg.

Visiting and Christmas caroling at the Logan Manor on Tuesday

evening were Norman and Rose Erickson, Virgil and Marilyn Whitsitt, Dean and Grace Dillon, Pastor Jeff Van Der Weele and Philip, Vivian Jansonius, Erma Jean Nyland, the Colby Greving family, Rodney and Hazel Jansonius.

Prairie View residents are reminded several new books, audiobooks and children's audio cassettes have been added to the Sunshine Library.