Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"The Value of God's Word," by Pastor Rick Rostek, Immanuel Lutheran Church

In the book of Deuteronomy, Moses tells the Israelites, "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

Israel was about to enter the Promised Land. It would be a place of plenty, a land flowing with milk and honey. And it would be easy for Israel to forget God and believe instead that they had control of their lives and could get by without God. Therefore, they were to remember God in all that they did and teach their children the instructions of God. Such teachings would include not only the commandments of God, but also the promises that God had made to them through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Among the promises that God made was that through Abraham, all nations would be blessed.

That blessing has come true through Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, who took away the sin of the world by His death on the cross, and promises eternal life to all who believe in Him. But just like the Israelites of old, we are surrounded by many good things, and it's easy for us to think that we are in control and have no need for God. We forget His gracious provision for our lives. We also forget our spiritual need for forgiveness. We often fail to love God with our whole heart, soul, and strength, and we often fail to love our neighbors as ourselves. We need that forgiveness that only God can give through Jesus Christ.

When the time comes for our life on this world to end, we won't be able to take all of these wonderful things with us. They won't matter. What will matter is what Jesus has done and whether we believe it. By faith in Jesus Christ, we will have everlasting life. Faith comes by hearing the word of God. That's why we teach the instructions of God, even today. We recall His great act of salvation in Jesus Christ and praise God that through Him, we have everlasting life.

SUNDAY
John 16:4b-33

MONDAY
1 John 5:1-21

TUESDAY
Ezekiel 2:1 - 3:11

WEDNESDAY
Ezekiel 3:12-27

THURSDAY
Ezekiel 37:1-14

FRIDAY
Joel 2:28 - 3:8

SATURDAY
Psalm 32

Enjoy the Journey

Summertime brings family trips and vacations. Often we pile into the family car and drive with the sole intent of getting to our destination as quickly as possible. What about the journey? The journey itself could be enjoyable! Stop at an overlook; take time for a picnic; stop to visit a friend along the way. Steven Tyler said in the words to an Aerosmith song ("Amazing")... "life's a journey, not a destination".

As we travel with loved ones, family and friends, let's stop to realize that our joy may also be in the journey itself. A measure of our lives might be how we spend our time along the way.

God intends for us to enjoy our "journey" in life as we work toward reaching our goals. Praise Him at your chosen house of worship this week and enjoy the journey toward your destination!

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NORCATUR NEWS

By NORCATUR NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

Birthdays and anniversaries: Dennis Wood - June 7; Pansy Price, Kenneth and Pansy Price - June 8; Cheryl Hill - June 10; Ethel Miller, Arnold Jackson - June 12.

A farewell supper will be held Saturday, June 17, beginning at 7 p.m., for Pastor Kathy Aeillo at the Educational Building of the United Methodist Church.

Hop and Peggy Lockhart will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on June 30. Their address is 710 N. 2nd, Norton, Kan., 67654.

Monday, May 22, Virgil and Joyce Price went to McCook to do some shopping. While having lunch they visited with Rex and Joyce Remington from Danbury. They also stopped to visit at the home of Melvin and Carlotta Thielbar.

Weekend guests of Virgil and Joyce Price May 27-29 were her brother and wife, Max and Doris Thielbar, Lincoln, Neb., Sunday Max and Joyce attended the high school class reunion at Danbury, Neb., where we enjoyed visiting former classmates. Kenneth and Pansy Price stopped to visit with Virgil and Joyce on Saturday afternoon.

Senior Citizens met June 2 with 14 present. Winners were Twila Henry, June Jolly, and Al Sedlmayer. Next meeting will be Friday, June 16, at 7 p.m.

Bruce Bishop of Denver spent Memorial weekend with Oran and LaVerne Milner. He returned home Monday to check on his mother, Vera Bishop, who is hospitalized at Bear Creek Nursery and Rehabilitation Center, 150 Spring St., Morrison, Colo., 80465.

More than fifty people signed the guest book at LaVerne Milner's 90th birthday party, held May 29, making it a memorable day.

Memorial weekend overnight guests of Francis and Arlene Hix were Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Stanton of Salina and Marjorie Prince of Liberty, Mo. Marjorie remained here to spend a week with her mother and Francis. Other guests were Veryl VanDerWege, Norton; Lula Hix, Gail, Denise and Luke Bailey, and Mark and Shayla Bailey, Norcatur; Linda Young, Conifer, Colo.; Linda Young, Conifer, Colo.; Minch and Wanda Nguyen, Lone Tree, Colo.; and Betty Reid, Norton.

Visitors at the Stan Millers for Memorial weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Curt DeDonder, Topeka, who came for Melissa's 10th year class reunion. The DeDonders arrived on Thursday, May 25, and brought Joel Miller, Emporia, home for a visit. On Friday night Casey Tuttle, Wichita, came to spend part of the weekend before he and Justine went to Quinter on Sunday to visit his folks. On Saturday Mr. and Mrs. John Mast, Emporia, were here for a visit as Carol's sister was here for her 40th reunion from Jennings High School. Bev Morris, Hoxie, was also a guest and attended her 30th reunion at Oberlin. Melissa's classmate, Molly, and husband from Maine also visited the farm on Sunday. Everyone attended alumni festivities in Oberlin and Jennings and had a busy, fun weekend.

Guest of Dorothy Ward the first weekend of June was daughter-in-law Paula Ward, of Denver. They spent part of Saturday and ate lunch with Lora Linn Leichliter at Cedar Living Center, Oberlin.

The Norcatur Public Library Summer Reading fun days will be June 13, 14, 20 and 21, from 10-11 a.m. The fun days are for children from kindergarten through sixth grade. Our theme this year is "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales."

Norcatur Museum Update

Esther Miller has donated ceramic roosters from the workshop of Betty Rubendall; a United Methodist Church plate; a Norcatur belt buckle; a vaulting pole her son, used for track at Norcatur High School; and a baseball bat, also from the high school. Hop and Peggy Lockhart donated a Citizen's State Bank ice scraper with the 1968-69 Norcatur High basketball schedule. If anyone has pens, keychains, etc., from any Norcatur businesses we would love to have them.

Marguerite Clark accompanied Dorothy Ward to the Mountain Slope Lodge and Oberlin Eastern Star occasion for the presentation of pins on Sunday, June 4. Luncheon was at 1 p.m. and followed by the presentations. Dorothy Ward and Karen Metcalf received widow's pins in memory of their deceased husbands, in a very impressive ceremony.

On Saturday, June 3, Rea and Dee Magers enjoyed being with Dee's uncle and aunt, Marion and Lorraine Long of New Almelo, at a family reunion at Webster Reservoir. There were 65 at the reunion. On Sunday, the Magerses met at the New Almelo cemetery with Marion and Marilyn Otter of New Almelo, Jeff Magers and Joy Luoto of Cedar Bluffs, and Charlene Wurm of Oberlin. Charlene did some grave witching and the group all experimented with the witching wands. Later Jeff and Joy had lunch with Rea and Dee before returning home.

Birthday and anniversary: Marci Matchett - June 16; Greg and Mary Long - June 15.

We have additional children's books, donated by Janice O'Hare, at the Norcatur Public Library.

Dave, Sam and Dewaine Stapp went to Denver Sunday, June 11, to attend the 90th birthday celebration for Helen New.

Mrs. Robbie Allen and Kaela Hibbs of Independence, Mo., were breakfast guests of Beth Johnson and Fred Molzahn on Friday morning, June 9.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Molzahn, LaNae Allen and Kaefa Hibbs of Independence, Mo., and Cathy Claussen of Oberlin were supper guests of Beth Johnson and Fred Molzahn Sunday night, June 11.

Due to scheduling conflicts the Norcatur Public Library Summer Reading fun days will be on June 27 and 29, 10-11 a.m. The fun days are for kids ages kindergarten through sixth grade. Our theme this year is Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales.

Hop and Peggy Lockhart will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on June 30. They may be reached at 710 N. 2nd, Norton, Kan., 67654.

There was a great turnout for the Norcatur City Wide Garage sales. People attended from Ellis, Graham, Saline and other area counties, and as far away as Nebraska and Colorado.

Vearl Sparkman with daughters, Mary Jo and Alice, and sister, Mary, went to Chickasha, Okla., during Memorial weekend. On the way they stopped at Lindsay, Okla., and Bradley, Okla., to see her mother's old home and the old home place, then went to the cemetery to place flowers on family graves. They also visited with her son, Kenney and Geri Sparkman.

On Sunday, June 4, Kenneth and Pansy Price met Mr. and Mrs. Gartrill of Wallace, Neb., for dinner at Norton, then they spent the afternoon on the farm with the Prices.

Pansy had a birthday on June 8, which was also her and Kenneth's 63rd wedding anniversary. They met their daughter, Marlene and family, in Norton for pizza to celebrate.

On Saturday, June 10, Pansy took in the garage sales in Norcatur, and on Sunday, June 11, Mike and Ruby Cook went to Norton with the Prices for dinner.

David and Veda Wood attended the wedding of David's daughter, Hester Wood, to Danny Bundreck in Fort Collins, Colo., on May 28. It was held in a park, with Hester's sister, Hannah, as bridesmaid and Hannah's husband, Israel, as best man. Toby and Jennie Wood furnished the music. David and Veda enjoyed visiting with the family. On the way out of town they visited the Swetsville Zoo, which specializes in "junk art" made from machinery parts. The figures ranged from dinosaurs to grasshoppers to space men. Veda said she couldn't stop taking pictures until her camera ran out. While the Woods were out of town most of Veda's children and her sister, Sheryl and Richard Patterson, met at her home and at the Lyle Cemetery.

Congratulations to Sam Stapp who broke the Decatur Community High freshman bench record in weightlifting. The record was 220 pounds, and he benched 225.

Patty and Kaitlyn Stapp were weekend guests of Kortney Stapp, Emporia. While there they went to West Phalia and attended a Pampered Chef bridal party for Kortney. The shower was hosted by Jennifer Foster, Kerrie Poire, and Debbie Poire.