

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"New Beginnings" By the Rev. Ray Gilstrap,

United Methodist Churches Alma, Norcatur and Clayton

Grace and peace to you in the name of Christ. My prayer for you today is that this New Year may be one of new beginnings as you seek God and strive to imitate Jesus Christ.

Many of us have a habit of making "New Year's Resolutions," and I'd like to suggest a few things you might consider. Perhaps one of these might be to begin or renew efforts to seek God by making a greater effort to imitate Christ. St. Thomas Aquinas gave some good advice for those who seek God:

"Great is the blindness and exceeding the folly of many souls that are ever seeking God, continuously sighing after God, and frequently desiring God: whilst, all the time, they are themselves the tabernacles of the Living God... since their soul is the seat of God, in which he continuously reposes."

As you seek to imitate Christ, take time to observe and recognize God's work in creation and in your own life. "Be still and know that he is God." (Psalm 46:10)

Another way to imitate Christ in your search for God will include the study of God's Word and those things great men or women have written about him. Walt Whitman found God in many places: "I hear and behold God in every object, yet understand God not in the least, nor do I understand who there can be more wonderful than myself. Why should I wish to see God better than this day? I see something of God each hour of the twenty four, and each moment then, in the faces of

men and women I see God, and in my own face in the glass, I find letters from God dropped in the street, and every one is signed by God's name, and I leave them where they are, for I know that whereso'er I go others will punctually come forever and ever." Whitman found God in all of creation, where do you find God?

Certainly your search for God through the imitation of Christ will include continual prayer. Soren Kierkegaard said: "A

Hasty kind of reasoning may hold that praying is an unprofitable act, because a man's prayer does not really change the unchangeable; but even if this in the process of time were desired, might not changeable man come easily to regret that he had changed God? The true kind of reasoning is therefore the only desirable kind as well; prayer does not change God, but changes him who prays." If you don't know how to pray, begin with this simple thought,

"Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner." (Luke 18:13) Then find Matthew chapter 6 verses 5-15, where Jesus Christ himself teaches us how to pray. Ask God to help you learn and seek the help of others who have already had experience.

In your search for God through the imitation of Christ, never forget to long for the hope of immortality that overcomes the fears of this life and comes from the love of Christ. Helen Keller, wrote, "I believe in the immortality of the soul because I have within me immortal longings. I believe that the state we enter after death is wrought by our own motives, thoughts and deeds. I believe that in the life to come I shall have the senses I have not had here, and that my home there will be beautiful with color, music, the speech of flowers and faces I love." We may not all have the same concept of the heavenly kingdom as Helen Keller, but we must all believe the words of Christ, that he has gone to prepare a place for us and when it is ready, he will return for us, that where he is we may be also. (John 14:1-3)

As you make your "New Year's Resolutions" for 2007, may you seek God through the imitation of Jesus Christ, that your joy may be complete (John 15:11), may your search reveal Jesus in everyone you meet (John 14:15-21), may you learn to pray continually (1 Thessalonians 5:15-24), and may your search for God through the imitation of Jesus Christ give you the assurance of eternal hope in Christ Jesus our Lord. (1 John 5:11-12)

A Piece of the Past

Have you ever wondered why people love to collect antiques? Things were built differently than they are today...no assembly line construction. Each piece was custom made by hand. It was a time when individuality and character were a big part of life. Perhaps we want to preserve those times by owning a piece of the past.

Today nearly every item we purchase is a clone of the others on the shelf. Mass production allows us to make more for less, but where is the uniqueness? Is individuality lost to the past? Not to God.

God cares about each and every one of us individually. We are matchless in His eyes. He hears our words and knows our thoughts the same as He did years and years ago when these old things were made.

Some things never change. We can still instruct our children about God. We are free to pray for our needs. Even today, God has not changed. He tells us in Malachi 3:6... "For I the Lord do not change...." Celebrate your uniqueness this week at your house of worship.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ephesians	Luke	Luke	Luke	Luke	Luke	Luke
6.10-24	3.1-22	4.16-30	4.31-44	5.1-16	5.17-39	6.1-16

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
Copyright 2007, Keister-Williams Newspaper Services, P. O. Box 8187, Charlottesville, VA 22906, www.kwnnews.com

The sponsors of this church page do so with pride in our community

<p>Pizza Hut/Taco Bell Come Join Us For Our "SUNDAY BRUNCH BUFFET" Pizza, Pasta, Salad & Dessert FREE COFFEE or TEA W. Hwy. 36 - Norton - 877-3359</p>	<p>Norton Animal Health Center Complete Large & Small Animal Service 801 W. Holme • Norton • 877-2411 Aaron R. White, DVM Sarah Ketterl White, DVM Mon. thru Fri. 8-5, Sat. 9-12</p>	<p>McMullen Real Estate Donald McMullen, Broker; Robert Wyatt McMullen & Wyatt Auctions Auctioneers * Realtors Farm • Estate • Antiques • Households 113 N. State - 877-3299 - Norton</p>
<p>Felton's Ace Building Center "For All Your Building Needs" ~Home Owned and Operated~ Joe and Janet Felton 415 E. Holme - 877-3070 - Norton</p>	<p>Engel's Sales & Service Complete Auto Repair Small Engines & Lawn Care Equip. Toro * Lawnboy * Stihl Chain Saws 209 W. Lincoln - 877-3391 - Norton</p>	<p>Bridges Group Inc. "Serving the Norton Area Since 1894" 117 N. Kansas * Norton, Kan. 785-877-4016</p>
<p>Moffet Drug Store "Prescription Specialists" Hallmark Cards and Russell Stover Candies 102 S. State - 877-2721 - Norton</p>	<p>Whitney Construction and Farms Dry Fertilizer Sales and Applications Terracing • Dozer Work • Ponds Route 1 - 877-3745 - Norton</p>	<p>Nelson Bros. Construction, Inc. Gen. Contractors * Butler Bldg. Equipment Rental Route 3 - 877-2554 - Norton</p>
<p>Ag Valley Co-operative Elevator-Service Station 877-5131 or 877-5188 - Norton 693-4522 - Clayton Branch</p>	<p>Sander Furniture & Gifts Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Bradley and Kim Sander 301 W. Holme • 874-4974</p>	<p>First State Bank "Your Progressive Community Bank" Member FDIC 105 W. Main - 877-3341 - Norton</p>
<p>Norton Shop & Save "Your Local Affiliated Full Service Grocer" 313 W. Main • Norton, Kan. 785-877-2422</p>		<p>Norton Telegram Your Local Newspaper 215 S. Kansas • Norton, Kan. 785-877-3361</p>
<p>Security Abstract Company Abstracters Title Insurance Agents ~Home Loans~ Prompt - Efficient - Confidential 214 E. Washington - Norton - 877-2141 Jolene L. Weiser, owner</p>	<p>All your protection under one roof. AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE Curt P. Wahlmeier Agency 111 W. Washington Norton, KS 67654 (785) 877-5802 Bus</p>	<p>Hardy Construction New Construction Ω Concrete Roofing Ω Remodeling Ω Decks —Sentinel Building Representative— 877-3892/871-0832—Lee Hardy Ask Us About Durable Alternative To Vinyl Or Metal Siding</p>
<p>Garden Gate Florals, Etc. Ruby Pflieger and Lynn Ward 785-874-5125 or Toll Free 1-866-873-2252 Fresh/Silk Florals — Gifts — Stained Glass 411 West Holme, Norton, KS</p>	<p>Don's Floor Covering Residential & Commercial Carpet * Sheet Vinyl * Tile Levolor Blinds * Panasonic Vacuums 113 W. Washington - Norton 877-3002 - Don Kaus - FREE Estimates</p>	<p>Countryside Veterinary Clinic of Oberlin, P.A. N. Hwy. 83, Oberlin, KS (North of Sale Barn) 785-475-3808 • 1-800-953-3808 Mark R. Olson, D.V.M. • Travis A. Hissong, D.V.M. 24-Hour Emergency Service</p>

NEW ALMELO

By BETTY OTTER

Marion and Lorraine Long, Hays, have two, new great-grandchildren: Blake William, son of Brian and Jennifer Gieke, Great Falls, Mont. Grandparents are Frank and Lettie Long, St. Elizabeth, Mo. Frank and Lettie stopped in Hays to see Marion and Lorraine on their way home after visiting the new grandchild. The other great-grandchild is Jayla Christine Long, the daughter of Tim and Debbie Long, Kimball, Neb. The grandparents are Floyd and Karen Long, Kimball. Jayla has two sisters, Carlyn and Adrienne.

Funeral services were held Dec. 19 for Mathilda Bollig, 77. Burial was in the St. Joseph Cemetery. Survivors include: one son, Glen Bollig, Norton; one son-in-law, Bob Lee; one sister, Alma Billinger, Victoria; five grandchildren, C.J. Bollig, Ryan Bollig, Shane Bollig, Angela and Robby Lee; and one great-granddaughter. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Rosa Weber, her husband, Gilbert, one son, Cheral, one daughter, Rose, and one brother, Herman.

Joe Mindrup has a new address; Prairie Senior Living Complex, 1625 S. Franklin, Colby, Kan. 67701.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, the family of Russ and Marcia Aumiller gathered at their home for their Christmas. Those present were, Josh Vahling, Jeff and Kathleen Vahling and family, Hays, and Jeremy and Missy Rumback and girls, Lenora. On Christmas Day Russ and Marcia and Josh went to Russ' mother, Bernita Aumiller, Selden.

On Dec. 23, Raymond and Bonita Slipke and family went to Hoxie to the home of Miriam Slipke for the Slipke Christmas. Others present were: Michael and Kathy Slipke, Downs; Cheryl and Ryan Goheen and Kaden, Pratt; Linda and Ron Baumberger and girls, Salina; William and Michelle Slipke and family, Hoxie; Alan and Phyllis Slipke, Netawaka; and Marvin and Mary Wutke, Norton. On Christmas Day, Bonita's family came to their

house to celebrate Christmas. Those joining the Slipke family were Vicki and Glen Kendall, Phillipsburg; Frank McClurg and Dustin and Crystal McClurg and family, Logan.

The Alfred Otter family celebrated their Christmas on Dec. 23. Those present were Tina and Will Ritter and family, Olathe; Tom Otter, DeSoto; Mark and Sheila Otter and family, Ulysses; Ashley Otter, Lenora; Jim and Jolene Moss and family, Jewell; Karl Otter, Great Bend; Charles Otter and family, Salina. That evening, Gary and Bertie Bruinekeool, Lenora; Ceena and Frank Owens and children, Galveston, Texas; and Renee Bruinekeool and Kirk Persinger, Norton, joined them for a gift exchange.

Don Schuckman, La Crosse, came to the home of his daughter, Stacy and Jared Scheetz and family on Dec. 23. Christmas Eve they all went to the home of Jared's parents, Ray and Ardith Scheetz to join Alan and Michelle Goldsby and family, Hillsboro; Chris and Julie Scheetz and Kayla; Steve Scheetz, Janice Jacobs, Hays; Troy and Sara Collins and Ainsley, Norton. Christmas Day they ate with Lisa and Dustin Day and family in Lenora and Cheryl Werth, Lisa's mother and a sister to Don Schuckman.

Coming to the home of Marion and Marilyn Otter over the Christmas weekend were, Bridgett and Zack Otter, Frank and Levonne Otter, Gabby and Josh Otter, Hays; Greg and Tammy Otter and children; Steve Otter, Wichita; and Emily and Gary Kessler and boys, Lakin.

On Christmas Day, Allie and Ruth Vahling went to the home of their son, Dick and Betty Vahling, Dresden and their family, Michael, Greg and Alisha Vahling and Alyson, Eric Vahling and friend Jesse, Lori and Martin Kollman, Hays. Joining the group were their neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bremer and Betty Vahling's mother, Alberta Ritter, Dresden.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Estate of Rosalia Uhrich

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, January 12, 19, 26, 2007 (3T)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

PROBATE DIVISION
Case No. 2006-PR-30

In the Matter of the Estate of ROSALIA UHRICH, Deceased
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The State of Kansas To All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that on November 30, 2006, a Petition was filed in this Court by Virgil Leo Uhrich and Valerie Rose Babcock, heirs, devisees and legatees, and Co-Executors named in the Last Will and Testament of Rosalia Uhrich, deceased, dated November 13, 2001, praying that the Will be admitted

to probate and record, that they be appointed as Co-Executors without bond and that they be granted Letters Testamentary.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of first publication of this Notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Virgil Leo Uhrich
Co-Petitioner
Valerie Rose Babcock
Co-Petitioner

John F. McClymont, #09379
RYAN, WALTER & McClymont, Chtd.
120 S. State - PO Box 364
Norton, Kansas 67654
785 877-5183
Attorney for Co-Petitioners

Estate of Vernon B. Archer

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, January 5, 12, 19, 2007. (3T)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

PROBATE DIVISION
Case No. 2005-P-33

In the Matter of the Estate of VERNON B. ARCHER, Deceased
NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that a petition was filed in this Court by an heir of Vernon B. Archer, deceased praying for the determination of descent; and you

are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before January 24, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. of said day in said court in the City of Norton, in Norton County Kansas at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Mary Halvarson, Petitioner
Submitted by:
Charles E. Worden #7417
WORDEN LAW OFFICE
213 S. Kansas, P.O. Box 427
Norton, Kansas 67654
(785) 877-3086
Attorney for the Petitioner

Estate of Veronica H. Urban

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 2007. (3T)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

PROBATE DIVISION
Case No. 2005-P-31

In the Matter of the Estate of VERONICA H. URBAN, Deceased
NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that Larry Urban filed a Petition for appointment of an Administrator in this Court as an heir of Veronica H. Urban, deceased and that he be appointed as executor without bond that he be granted letters Testamentary. This case shall be heard on January 24, 2007 at 1:00 p.m.

defenses thereto on or before January 24, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. of such day, in this Court in the City of Norton in the District Court of Norton County, Kansas at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Larry Urban, Administrator
Submitted by:
Charles E. Worden Law #7417
WORDEN LAW OFFICE
213 S. Kansas, P.O. Box 427
Norton, KS 67654
(785) 877-3086

You are required to file your written