

THE NEW LEAF

He came to my desk with quivering lip -
 The lesson was done.
 "Dear Teacher, I want a new leaf," he said,
 "I have spoiled this one."
 I took the old leaf, stained and blotted,
 And gave him a new one, all unspotted,
 And into his sad eyes smiled:
 "Do better now, my child!"

I went to the Throne with quivering soul -
 The old year was done.
 "Dear Father, hast thou a new year for me?
 I have spoiled this one."
 He took the old year, stained and blotted,
 And gave me a new one, all unspotted,
 And into my sad heart smiled:
 "Do better now, my child!"

-Author Unknown

"And they continued steadfastly..." (Acts 2:42)

	1/2	1/9	1/16	1/23	1/30
Bible Classes	103	99	127	123	105
Morning Worship	116	118	155	152	?
Contribution	\$1120	\$953	\$1079	\$780	\$1498
Wed. Bible Study	87	74	89	90	

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 R.R. 5, Box 13
 LaGrange, In 46761

WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US

CHURCH OF CHRIST OF LAGRANGE	SUNDAY	Bible Classes	9:30 am
		Morning Worship	10:30 am
		Evening Worship	6:00 pm
	WEDNESDAY	Bible Study	7:00 pm
	THURSDAY	Keenager Program	10-12:00 am

VOL. 18

February 20, 1983

NO. 1

STARVING TO DEATH

We are told that a bird can go nine days without food, a dog 20 days, a turtle 500 days, a snake 800 days, a fish 1,000 days, and some insects 12,000 days. For man, however, two weeks is about the limit. Sooner or later, nourishment is necessary for all of God's creatures.

Have you ever noticed that we are not asked to "read" the Word of God? Rather, we are urged to "study" it, "meditate" upon it, and "compare spiritual things with spiritual". In other words, the Bible is too holy and sacred to "toy with". God wants us to put in some real consecrated effort when we approach the Scripture, for in this way we will more readily assimilate its sweet nourishment and good doctrine.

But the sad fact is that many Christians are starving to death, not because food isn't available, but simply because they will not eat of it! What home does not have a Bible or opportunity to attend the worship services? A Bible on the shelf is of no more value than food in the refrigerator... if they are not taken and used. Don't starve your soul! Feed on the Word of God and grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

-Selected

NEW FORIAT

With this first issue for 1983 you will notice a number of changes in the bulletin. The bi-weekly bulletin has been replaced by a monthly newsletter. Instead of being mailed to the members, it will be handed out at the Sunday services (Extra copies will be available for those who wish to send it to friends). It will be smaller in size with a somewhat different format.

These changes are a result of your desire to use the Lord's money in a greater way to reach the lost. The monies saved in postage and printing have been diverted to other worthy programs. We trust that the monthly newsletter will still meet the need of keeping one another informed about the Lord's work at LaGrange.

-Norm

NEW ZONES

Once again the Zones have been reshuffled for another year. Each Zone is composed of young singles, married couples, and senior citizens. This represents a cross-section of the entire congregation.

The Zones have been organized to encourage and provide closer fellowship among the members - both new and old. The past two years have demonstrated the effectiveness of this program.

Each individual member or family is urged to find out the Zone they have been assigned to and then to actively support it for the coming year.

NEW REDECORATING

New light fixtures, ceiling fans, baptistry drapes, and wall to wall carpeting have aiven a new and much needed face lift to the auditorium. The few weeks of disruption while the auditorium was undergoing extensive remodeling seem minor now that we are enjoying the new surroundings.

A word of thanks to all who gave of their time and talents in order to save the church a considerable sum of money in donated labor. And to those who gave special contributions to help cover the cost of redecorating. This once again shows that much can be done when we all pull together.

NEW CLASS MATERIAL

The first Sunday in March will mark the beginning of the new Bible school class material "Uniform Family Bible Studies" by the Gospel Advocate.

These lessons will be used in the Pre-school, Primary and Junior departments only. The presently combined class of the Teenagers and Adults will continue to view the remaining films of "How Should We Then Live" in Brother Warren Turney's class. These classes will then begin using the new material at the start of the next quarter in June.

One of the great advantages of this particular Bible class material is that every class will be studying the same lesson on any given Sunday. This encourages family study and devotionals in the home to prepare for the next Sunday's lesson. Daily scripture readings are suggested, all of which should cause every student to get deeper into the word - a must for our spiritual growth.

These studies will be different for some classes, not the usual "fill in the blanks", but rather a more thought provoking question and discussion type study. Considering its many merits, we are certain that all adapt to the new material.

-Education Committee

OUR SICK

Sister NANNIE HALL has been sick at home for the past several weeks.

Little KIM SOMLES has an infection that has been traveling from her eye, ear, throat and is in her lungs.

JOE HUGHES FAMILY has been having a bout with the flu bug for the past two weeks.

MERILYN HERRON is suffering with severe stomach cramps from her case of the flu.

OUR CONDOLENCE

We were saddened to learn of the death of Sister Jeanette Kurkendal of the Angola church. She suffered a stroke last week and finally subcomed to its Friday. Our prayers are with Harvey and the family.

CAMP INDOGAN 1983 CALENDAR

A Camp Newsletter will be coming out soon, but here is the camp calendar as it now stands:

April	15	SPRING BANQUET - Heritage House
	29-30	Senior Rally 14-19 yrs.
May	6-7	Junior Rally 9-13 yrs.
July	10-15	Junior Session
	17-22	Intermediate Session
	24-29	Junior Session
	31-Aug 5	Intermediate Session
Aug	7-12	Senior Session
Sept	16-17	Junior Rally 9-11 yrs.
	23-24	Intermediate Rally 12-14 yrs.
	3-Oct 1	Senior Rally 15-19 yrs.
Oct	8	FALL BANQUET - Camp Indogan

"And they continued steadfastly..." (Acts 2:42)

	2/6	2/13	2/20	2/27
Bible Classes	101	98	112	118
Morning Worship	121	129	118	125
Contribution	\$957	\$869	\$1013	\$1268
Wed. Bible Study	81	72	76	97

CHURCH OF CHRIST
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		Morning Worship	10:30 am	
		Evening Worship	6:00 pm	
		WEDNESDAY	Bible Study	7:00 pm
		THURSDAY	Keenager Program	10-12:00 am

VOL. 18

March 13, 1983

NO. 2

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship to the Christian, is like food to the body, an absolute necessity to its survival and growth. Christians must never regard it as something they can take or leave. The lack of strong fellowship among Christians will result in many becoming discouraged and eventually falling away from the Lord.

This is the reason the first century Christians were so devoted to the fellowship. From the very beginning their devotion was obvious. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer" (Acts 2:42).

Fellowship should be an exciting time where Christians genuinely share their lives with one another. Paul says in writing to the Thessalonians, "We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us" (1 Thess. 2:8). Every Christian should be willing to share the struggles and victories of their lives. Everyone needs to develop this attitude toward fellowship because God can use the fellowship in a powerful way to help us overcome the pressure to

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FELLOWSHIP (continued)

conform to the world. God will not only meet our needs but use us to meet the needs of other Christians.

Developing strong and effective fellowship takes a lot of work. Here are some suggestions to improve the fellowship:

1. Be others centered: Centering on the needs of others is an absolute necessity.
2. Be spiritually centered: Spiritual concerns must be at the heart of every fellowship in order for God to do His work during that time.
3. Have a genuine concern in how others are doing: Genuineness and sincerity provide the right atmosphere for us to be open with one another.

If we incorporate these things into our fellowship, we will see personal spiritual growth in ourselves as well as those around us.

-Selected

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SEMINAR

Marriages may be made in heaven...but they must be worked out here on earth! Most marriages could stand some improvement. For this reason the Parkside church in Dearborn Heights, Mich. is holding a Marriage Enrichment Seminar on March 25-26. This seminar will be conducted by Dr. Carl Brecheen and Dr. Paul Faulkner of the Bible faculty of Abilene Christian University. These seminars have saved many marriages and greatly improved countless others.

Several couples from LaGrange have already made reservations to attend this seminar. The enrollment is limited to the first 700 applicants. If you desire more information or wish to register, see Norm.

TEACHER'S MEETING

All teachers are asked to attend a teacher's meeting Friday, March 13, at 7:00 PM. This is another session in the series to train those who desire to be better teachers of God's word. The lesson will be "Evaluating Yourself And Your Teaching."

PHONE-FOR-CHILDREN

In a few days you will be getting a phone call from one of the volunteers asking for your gift to the Shults-Lewis Childrens Home. It is hoped that this year's Phone-for-Children goal of \$60,000.00 will be easily met. Remember, these volunteer callers are Christians just like you who care for children and want to help. Lets make their job easier by expressing our appreciation for what they are doing and give a generous gift which will help them to reach this year's goal.

SYMPATHY

The family of God at LaGrange wish to express its sympathy to those families who recently lost loved ones.

Brother John Ray, who was 90 years old, passed away February 22 while a resident of Miller's Nursing Home. Funeral services were conducted at the church building with the burial near Rensselaer, Ind.

Sister Nancy McDonald died suddenly March 2 of an apparent heart attack. She was 69 years old.

Lets remember to "weep with those that weep".

ZONE HAPPENINGS

- Zone I - Pot luck dinner at David & Diane Kimpel Sat. March 12, at 6:00 PM.
- Zone II Spaghetti dinner at Joe & Lois Oakley Sat. March 19, at 4:00 PM.
- Zone III Dinner at Duffs Restuarant in Ft. Wayne Sat. April 16, meet at building at 5:30 PM.
- Zone IV Pot luck at Perry & Hazel Miller Friday, March 25, postponed til further notice.

SINGERS TO PERFORM

The 43 member David Lipscomb College A Cappella Singers will perform Monday, March 14, at 7:30 PM at the Donmoyer church in South Bend. The chorus will perform a variety of choral pieces from early music to contemporary, and to a variety of hymns and spirituals.

CAMP BANQUET

The Spring Banquet for Camp Indogan will be April 15.

April 29-30 - Senior Rally, Camp Indogan

May 6-7 Junior Rally, Camp Indogan

July 10 - begins the summer camping sessions of Junior, Intermediate and Senior age levels. See bulletin board for dates.

August 21 - Annual Homecoming Date

NOTICE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Michigan Christian College sends an announcement of 2 year degrees now being offered in new areas of instruction. Check bulletin board.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING SEMINAR

Is being planned by the Steuben County church of Christ, Angola, Ind. on May 22-25, 1983. Brother Dollace McKinley, elder at East Allen County congregation, Ft. Wayne will be conducting it.

"And they continued steadfastly..." (Acts 2:42)

	3/6	3/13	3/20	3/27
Bible Classes	112	114	113	100
Morning Worship	143	131	141	125
Contribution	\$1008	\$1319	\$819	\$962
Wed. Bible Study	84	87	94	96

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			Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
			Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.
		WEDNESDAY	Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
		THURSDAY	Keenager Program	10-12:00 a.m.

VOL. 18

April 3, 1983

NO. 3

JESUS IS NOT LORD...UNTIL JESUS IS OBEYED!

"And why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?" (Luke 6:46)

Talk is cheap. We all know that. Yet we still persist. We talk ... and talk ... and talk! We talk about the purpose of the church and the Christian being the saving of souls, but we save no souls. We talk about the Lordship of Christ and His being our Lord, but He isn't! Not that He isn't Lord, He is. God made Him Lord. "God has made Him both Lord and Christ." (Acts 2:36) Though He has been declared and demonstrated to be Lord (Master) by God, He still is not recognized and responded to as Lord in many of our lives. Lordship is reflected only through servitude. He is our master only when He is obeyed by us. Not lip service but life service reflects Lordship. Ancient Israel had this lesson brought powerfully home to them. Lip service led them into captivity! The prophet told them for God:

"Because this people draw near with their words and honor Me with their lip service, but they remove their hearts far from Me, and their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned by rote, therefore behold, I will once again deal marvelously with this people." (Isaiah 29:13, 14)

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Calling Him "Lord" does not make Jesus Lord of our lives any more than calling ourselves "Christian" makes us Christ-like. The true disciple of His, Jesus said, is the one who "comes to me, and hears My words, AND ACTS UPON THEM" (Luke 6:47). Why do you call Jesus Lord? Remember Jesus' words!

"Not everyone who says to Me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My father who is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21)

--Dwayne Hollis

UP-DATE ON SUNDAY CLASSES

We are "phasing in" the use of the Family Bible Series in our Sunday morning classes. The pre-school, primary and juniors began using the series in March. Junior and senior teens started the first Sunday in April. We plan to start the series on the adult level the first Sunday in June. Between now and June, there will be two classes offered, one on a review of the Marriage Enrichment Seminar held in Dearborn Heights Mich. on Mar. 25&26. , and the other class will be one on Characteristics of Christian Maturity. Until the 1st Sunday in June adults may choose which class they care to attend. The Marriage Enrichment class will meet in classroom #13 and the Christian Maturity class in classroom #14.

A WORD OF THANKS

We appreciated the film series "How Then Shall We Live" that the Turneys furnished and that brother Warren presented to the combined teen and adult classes for nearly 3 months. The weekly review and outline material that Warren presented so effectively, added greatly to the understanding of the series. Even though he didn't ask for the test papers back, we believe that even he would have been surprised just how much we gleaned from the series.. Thanks again for this, Warren and Susan.

COUNSELLING SESSIONS

The elders feel that an essential element in regard to the success of the Lord's work in the church here is communication. We fail to take time (or plan time) when we can actually get to know each member better and how each member can serve better. Obviously, just meeting a few times weekly does not afford the opportunity to do this, especially when there are so many to see.

Starting soon, we would like to schedule a meeting with each member (or a husband/wife couple if they would rather meet together) of 20 to 30 minutes in length, just following or previous to a regular service, or on a Monday evening at regular elders' meetings. Whatever time would be best for each member, we will do. In order to do a better job as shepherds of the flock, we feel we must know the flock better. You may have questions, comments or suggestions which we would appreciate at such a meeting. Think about it and we'll be contacting you.

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 15 - Camp Indogan Banquet at the Heritage House in Ft. Wayne. Area wide support both physically and financially is needed to keep the camp going each year. A donation of \$15.00 per person is little compared to the spiritual values the camp offers to the youth who attend. Several from Lagrange plan to go. Not only a good meal (included in the price) but also a special speaker, Derald Ailes, is planned for the evening. See Devon or Dean for tickets and rides.

April 16 - Work day around the building for both men and women. Special feature!!! The elders want to furnish and prepare breakfast for all who attend. Breakfast at 7:30 sharp!

April 16 - Zone 3 dinner at Buffs Restaurant in Ft. Wayne. Meet at building at 5:30 p.m.

April 16 - Ladies Inspiration Day at Summit City church of Christ, Ft. Wayne. See bulletin board.

MID-AMERICA EVANGELISM WORKSHOP

Plans are well underway for the Fifth Annual Mid-America Evangelism Workshop to be held in Indianapolis, at the Convocation Center, June 23-25. This year's theme is, "The Surrendered Life", and Evangelism will be the main emphasis.

There will be 40 different speakers teaching 75 classes on a variety of subjects. Special classes for women and you youth will be featured. The lessons will be Bible centered, challenging and motivational. Some of the speakers will be: Ruble Shelly, G. p. Holt, Nick Young, Hugo McCord, Jerry Jones, Oliver and Norma Rogers, Abe Miller and others.

One hundred million people live within one day's drive of Indianapolis. Be one of the thousands that will attend this year's workshop. Free housing will be provided on request.

GHANA FOOD RELIEF CONT.

The first church was begun in Ghana 22 years ago. There are now 160 churches in over 125 towns. There are 100,000 people engaged in Bible correspondence courses. People have been obeying the gospel at the rate of 10 per day for the past several years.

This Sunday all who can are asked to make a special contribution to this effort. Please give generously to help.

"And they continued steadfastly..." (Acts 2:42)

	4/3	4/10	4/17	4/24
Bible Classes	98	113	135	?
Morning Worship	145	152	148	153
Contribution	\$1075	\$1400	\$840	\$1040
Wed. Bible Study	79	96	86	95

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CHURCH

OF

CHRIST

OF

LAGRANGE

SUNDAY

Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Keenager Program 10-12:00 a.m.

VOL. 18

May 1, 1983

NO. 4

THE GREAT COMMISSION

FOUR BILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED MILLION! That's the world's population and our burden! We must reach them with the gospel. Of the nations of the world, 60 have not yet even entered with the pure New Testament message of salvation. Many others have only been touched in the lightest of ways. Evangelists are faced with a population of millions to preach to with small working funds and subsistence salaries. So many supporting congregations are content to hold "worship services" and do some token evangelism to the tune of a gospel meeting every so often or an occasional newspaper or radio ad.

I may not know what individual churches are doing, but one thing I do know ... we are not getting the job done. Whatever we're doing isn't working. Our methods have failed. We're behind in the race and we just can't keep up if we're going to keep running like we have been. Something has got to give. In some way we're going to have to change tactics.

Changing preachers, initiating new programs, changing meeting times, waiting for old brother Crabapple to step aside or waiting for things (economics) to "get better" just ain't gonna cut it! Sending another "missionary" or two to Timbuctoo won't do a whole lot of good either. What is needed is a change in ... thinking. Yes, thinking. Until every member begins to see our mission in terms of their own

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responsibility, not much is going to happen. Until each Christian feels the burden for tormented souls groping in darkness and destined for eternal torment ... the fulfillment of Christ's commission shall continue to elude us. When we are finally and fully aware of the urgency of our mission and determined to accomplish it ... then we will find a way to do it and do it soon.

ONWARD AND UPWARD!

-Dwight Whitsett

CAMP INDOGAN YOUTH RALLIES

The Senior Camp Rally will be April 29-30. The theme is "The First Day of the Rest of Your Life". The rally begins Friday 5:00 p.m. with registration and concludes on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$5.00 per camper. For reservations, send to director, Dan Reed, 3800 Minnich Rd., New Haven, In. 46774 or phone 749-5300.

The Junior Rally will be May 6-7, The theme is "New Life in Jesus". The program will feature the singing of the Promiseland Quartet on Saturday afternoon. Reservations should be sent to Larry Dickson, 501 N. Main St., Kendallville, In. 46755, or phone 347-5862.

DOES GOD EXIST SEMINAR

The 1983 Does God Exist Summer Seminar with John Clayton and Jean Wiebe will be held at Bethel College in South Bend on July 4-8. The seminar consists of five days of concentrated material on Christian Evidences. There will be special sessions on how to use evidences with children and also in evangelism. The only costs will be for your food and travel. Registration forms are available in the office.

KEENAGE ANNIVERSARY

The Keenagers had a very successful celebration of their fifth anniversary on Thursday, April 14. The second highest attendance was recorded in the history of this ministry when 75 attended this special meeting. The tables were decorated and a special cake served to honor the occasion. A special thanks to all who stayed after on Wednesday night to help with the decorations and preparation of food.

TEENS BANQUET

The special Teens Banquet will be Friday, May 20. This banquet is to provide our young people with an alternative to the school proms. This year's banquet will be one of the best ever. Following a delicious home cooked meal, there will be some recreation, a feature movie, overnight housing and an early morning breakfast together. Invite your school friends to an evening of good, wholesome entertainment.

SICK

Sister Margaret Tuttle was in the hospital in Ft. Wayne to have a screw removed from her ankle which she had broken earlier. Sister Vada Powell underwent minor surgery to repair a torn legement in her thumb.

Elizabeth Swartzentruber, mother of Mary Ann Johnston, is in Sturgis hospital after suffering a heart attack.

Bill Pieratt, brother of Jim, was in LaGrange hospital for treatment of an ulcer.

Sister Sharon Simpson spent several days in LaGrange hospital with a case of pneumonia.

Let's remember these in our visits and prayers.

BURIED WITH CHRIST

We rejoice over the baptism of Warren Billman into Christ on Tuesday, April 12. Warren has been viewing the filmstrips and studying with Dean Hoggatt. We welcome him into the family of God at LaGrange.

GHANA FOOD RELIEF

A massive food relief project is now underway to help the starving people of Ghana. The story is one of hearache and death. The reports from our brethren in Ghana contain the same message, "There is no food - we are hungry." The situation in Ghana is even more desperate than the need which existed in Poland in 1981!

Recently the Nigerian government expelled 1.5 million Ghanians who had moved there to find work. This forced exodus produced a line of people, several abreast, more than 10 miles long. Many died along the way on the 250 mile trek. Those who survived found conditions even worse than before. There is now over 14 million starving people and food is scarce. But this is where you and I can help. (cont. on back page)

I'M A GAMBLER

I'm not the kind of gambler that frequents places behind "closed doors" in some sleezy night club. I'm not interested in that kind of small time gambling where a few dollars change hands. I am betting on things that are of greater worth than the whole world. I am betting that I can neglect those things that God wants of me and still be saved.

I'm gambling with the souls of my children. These are high stakes. I'm betting their souls that I can miss Bible classes without it harming them or me. I am betting that such classes have nothing to contribute to my spiritual life. That I can be just as good a parent and a mate without the advantages gained from such spiritual exercises.

I am willing to bet that I don't need the close Christian fellowship gained in Bible classes...that my children don't need the strength of Christian friends to make it through this life in one piece and be pleasing to God.

Yes, I'm a gambler, the biggest longshot gambler of them all, gambling against impossible odds, gambling with the souls of those I love best, gambling...gambling that I can skip some Church Services, gambling that there are no benefits there to help me go to Heaven...gambling that I can be negligent...and still be saved.

What odds do you want to give me???

(Via Clanton, Ala)

"And they continued steadfastly..." (Acts 2:42)

	5/1	5/8	5/15	5/22	5/29
Bible Classes	119	122	111	103	92
Morning Worship	136	139	133	124	113
Contribution	\$1374	\$1027	\$910	\$937	\$1170
Wed. Bible Strdy	91	93	79	97	84

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CHURCH	SUNDAY	
OF	Bible Classes	9:30 a.m.
	Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.
CHRIST	WEDNESDAY	
	Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
LAGRANGE	THURSDAY	
	Keenager Program	10-12:00 a.m.

VOL. 18

June 5, 1983

NO. 5

DISCIPLE MAKING IS NOT A CHOICE - IT'S A MUST!

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations..." (Matt. 28:19)

The individual and collective purpose of the children and church of God is to make disciples for the Son of God.

Disciple making is not so much a matter of method as it is of motivation. When the early Christians were scattered due to persecution, they "went about preaching the word" (Acts 8:4). They did it, not because they were sold on some method or program, but rather because they were sold on a message and a person, the message of the gospel and person of Christ.

They had heard the gospel, the good news of Christ crucified for their sins and crowned as their Savior. They recognized their utter sinfulness - their lostness. They accepted Christ as the only answer to their sinful condition. They believed that God had made Him "both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36) and that "there is salvation in no one else" (Acts 4:12). Believing in Christ, they had been buried with Him in baptism to wash away their sins and resurrected with Him to newness of life. (Romans 6:1-4) Through the blood of Christ they were a new people with a new purpose.

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They were now motivated by their love for Him. (2 Cor. 5:14,15) Christ had died for them. They were alive through Him and living for Him. He was their life. They owed Him everything! Like Paul, they felt a deep obligation to share the gospel. (Rom. 1:14,15) None of them were alike. Each had his or her own peculiar gifts and opportunities. (Rom. 12:1-6) All used their gifts and opportunities to share the gospel. They were saved! They wanted everybody to know about Christ and have an opportunity to be saved through Him. They found a way to share the message of Christ. They didn't all do it alike, but they all did it!

When we are sold on the Son, so will we! Being grateful for His grace and sold on His salvation, we will find a way to share His message with others. We won't all do it alike but we will all do it! We'll have to! Love leaves us no choice! The love of Christ will compel us to share the gospel of Christ. WHEN WE ARE TRULY DISCIPLES OF CHRIST, WE WILL FIND A WAY TO MAKE DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST.

-Dwayne Hollis

HATS OFF TO OUR GRADUATES

Another milestone has been reached in the lives of our graduates. They are now facing many new challenges. The leaving of old friends and making of new. The decision of what to do for the next several years. Whether to continue schooling, take a job, or even the more serious step of getting married. Whatever you choose, life will be different.

And so we say, "Congratulations, for a job well done. We are proud of you." God bless you as you enter into this next era of your lives. Those graduating in '83:

Jerry Lee, Lakeland High School

Bev Stutzman, Westview High School

AREA MEETINGS

The church in Columbia City is having a meeting with Jess Nutter of West Virginia. The meeting starts Wed. June 8 thru 12.

MEETINGS (CONT.)

The Summit City church in Ft. Wayne is holding a Gospel Meeting June 12-17. The speaker is Ralph Draper of St. Louis, Missouri.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP

Bill and Sharon Pepito have expressed their desire to work with the Lord's church at LaGrange. Bill recently transferred in his work from Colorado to Sturgis, Mich. They have three children: Mike 12 yrs. Nick 9, and Cara 1. Bill and Sharon are both dedicated workers for the Lord. We feel fortunate to have them as co-laborers in the work. Their new address is: 26130 Helen Rd., Sturgis, Mich.

MID-AMERICA WORKSHOP

The 5th Annual Mid-America Evangelism Workshop is set for the Convention Center in Indianapolis June 23-25. Thirty-five different speakers will conduct 80 various classes with an emphasis on church growth and soul winning.

Be one of the 5,000 to attend this year's workshop on "The Surrendered Life". Free housing is available on request. Child care activities will be conducted for children of all ages.

CHURCH LEADERS WORKSHOP

The Michigan Christian College in Rochester is conducting a Church Leaders Workshop on June 17-18. Outstanding elders and preachers will speak on work in which they have been highly successful. Accommodations are available at a reasonable cost in the dorms of the college.

BUS CANVASSING

All who can are asked to meet at the church building on Saturday, June 11, at 8:30 A.M. There will be a light breakfast served. Plans are to go out and canvass for more bus riders plus visit with those who have stopped riding the bus. The bus program has offered us with many opportunities to teach the children and reach the lost of our community. Lets have a good turn out for this effort.

CONGRATULATIONS to Chad and Lesly who were joined in wedlock June 4. May God's blessings be ever with you.

(continued from front)

Don't lay down the tools and run for cover just because clouds have gathered.

Controllable circumstances are in our hands.
Uncontrollable circumstances are in God's hands.
His hands are stronger than ours. Leave the uncontrollable circumstances with Him. He will handle them all right.

Caution is one thing; faithlessness is quite another. With God nothing is too good to be true.

-Joe R. Barnett

CAMP NOTES

The camp is in full swing for the summer. Three sessions are already completed. We are proud of all our campers and the good example they set for LaGrange. We are especially proud when awards are given to them.

To Jill Pieratt for Star Bible runner up in Junior session and Heidi Herron for Star Bible in Intermediate session.

"And they continued steadfastly..." (Acts 2:42)

	7/3	7/10	7/17	7/24	7/31
Bible Classes	73	110	110	95	109
Morning Worship	110	150	140	124	154
Contribution	\$1504	\$1035	\$1118	\$732	\$946
Wed. Bible Study	88	98	62	80	

CHURCH OF CHRIST
R.R. 5, Box 13
LaGrange, In. 46761

WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US

CHURCH	SUNDAY	
OF CHRIST	Bible Classes	9:30 a.m.
	Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
	Evening Worship	6:00 p.m.
OF	WEDNESDAY	
	Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
LAGRANGE	THURSDAY	
	Keenager Program	10-12:00 a.m.

VOL. 18

August 7, 1983

NO. 7

CAUTIOUS OR FAITHLESS?

"He who observes the wind will not sow; and he who regards the clouds will not reap" (Eccl.11:4)

"Nothing ventured, nothing gained." You must act. If you demand "a sure thing" you will never begin, much less finish, any worthwhile work.

"How's your cotton?" a visitor asked an old farmer.

"Didn't plant no cotton; 'fraid o' th boll weevil."

"How are your potatoes?"

"Didn't plant none; 'fraid 'o the 'tater bugs."

"What did you plant?"

"Didn't plant nothin'; just playin' it safe." He took no risks. Didn't harvest any crop, either.

There are dangers in every venture. Many conditions of life are beyond our control. Ideal conditions will never come. Preoccupation with problems will paralyze you.

God doesn't promise blessings to those who will walk the road only when it is perfectly smooth. Nor does he give us victory if we give up at the first sight of difficulty.

(continued on back)

VISITATION

For some time, there has been a need for an on going visitation program. With past efforts, programs have started with a great deal of enthusiasm and participation, but both usually dwindled as the program progressed.

This month, we are beginning a visitation program that we believe will solve both of these problems. The present zone break-down is the basis for the visitation teams. The teams will meet once each month on Monday evening for a pot-luck dinner. At the dinner calls will be assigned for that week. Records will be kept of attendance, visits, and Bible studies conducted. These will be the basis for a "Victory Banquet" in December. We are encouraged that 60 members have agreed to participate in this new program.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

One of the highlights of many young peoples lives during the summer is that of Vacation Bible School. The church responds to this opportunity by providing a week of Bible School sometime during the summer each year. This year the date is August 15 thru 19, for an evening school, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., for ages 2 through high school. The teachers for the classes include:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Teachers</u>	<u>Room</u>
Ages 2 & 3	Merilyn Herron	15
Ages 4 & 5	Kathy Hughes & Pat Hall	13
Grade 1	Penny Oakley & Diane Kimpel	11
Grades 2 & 3	Lois & Katie Oakley	12
Grades 4,5 & 6	Susan Turney & Athena Wonderly	14
Jr. & Sr. High	Norm Herron	10

Kathy Sowles will be in charge of refreshments.

Depending on the enrollment, we may have to split some of the classes into smaller ones, which we are prepared to do, using more teachers and rooms. Early registrations and the first evenings attendance will tell us if we should.

It is obvious to every member of the church of the value of teaching and training of our youth in God's Word. This is again an opportunity that every member has in reaching out to the youth around us and extending an invitation to attend.

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Bible School cont'd

We may not see all the good that can come from the planting of God's Word, but we can rest assured that good will come. Read Isa. 55:11.

The placing of posters around town and an ad in the paper will help to advertize the VBS. Will you help by enrolling someone?, and bringing them in if they need a ride? See Dean Hoggatt or call 463-3318 if there is a need for transportation.

CLOTHING

Due to a lack of interest in the used clothing stored in room #3, we have discontinued its use. The clothes were given to the Angola church. They have a need for such items in their work in the community. A special thanks to Blanche Dauberman and Nancy Billman for attempting to keep the room in some kind of order. Thanks also to Kathy Sowles and Merilyn Herron for packing the clothes and Bob Sowles for driving them to Angola. Plans are to decorate the room and use it for a much needed classroom.

Going-away Party

It was with sad hearts that the church expressed its appreciation to the Lee family for their many years of labor with us. Due to Jim's new job in Coldwater, Michigan, the Lees have moved to that area. The fellowship dinner, cake and a small token from the group is our way of saying how much we love you - Jim, Pat and Jerry. Thank you Jim for your many hours of work as treasurer for the church. Likewise to Pat for helping with the success of our Keenager program for the elderly. God bless you both in your new work at Coldwater.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations to Elaine Moser, who won a Gold and Bronze Medal in track in the Special Olympics in Louisiana.

However, Elaine was already a winner as she constantly shares her faith in Jesus with whoever she meets. We are proud of you Elaine and know that even a greater prize - the victor crown - awaits you when this lifes race is over.

--cont. from front

us! They need to see Christianity working on the gut level of life. Then, if the world is ever to listen, IT WILL LISTEN. Christian, "You are the light of the world". Let your light shine so that a world in darkness might find its way to salvation and security.

-Dwayne Hollis

HOGS AND HYPOCRITES

A minister once visited a farmer to talk about Christ. "I wouldn't come to church up there," the farmer said. "I know old _____ and _____ and they don't live any differently than I. I'm as good as they are." And everywhere the farmer went, he told about the hypocrites in the church.

Months passed by and the minister went to see the farmer again. "I want to buy a hog," said the preacher. The farmer showed all his best hogs to him. Then they came to the runt. "That's the one I want to buy," said the preacher. "But you don't want that runt, do you?" asked the farmer. "I sure do," replied the preacher.

They loaded the runt on the truck and as the preacher left, he said, "Now I'm going to ride all over this area and tell folks that this is the kind of hogs you raise."

"That's not fair," the farmer exclaimed, "I have some nice hogs and you want to show people that runt!" "If it's fair for the church, it's fair for the hog," the preacher replied.

-Selected

"And they continued steadfastly..." (Acts 2:42)

	9/4	9/11	9/18	9/25
Bible Classes	101	96	115	108
Morning Worship	130	128	150	144
Contribution	\$1112	\$1050	\$810	\$856
Wed. Bible Study	91	97	95	85

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CHURCH	SUNDAY	
OF CHRIST	Bible Classes	9:30 AM
	Morning Worship	10:30 AM
	Evening Worship	6:00 PM
AT LAGRANGE	WEDNESDAY	
	Bible Study	7:00 PM
	THURSDAY	
	Keenagers	10-12:00 AM

VOL. 18

October 2, 1983

NO. 7

A CITY SET ON A HILL

Yes, as Christians that is exactly what we are--A CITY SET ON A HILL, and a city set on a hill cannot be hidden. The whole world is looking at us and to us. They're looking at us to see if this Christ we claim to believe in really is "the way, and the truth, and the life", to see if He really does give us "everything pertaining to life and godliness", to see if He really has made a difference in our attitudes about and approach to living, to see if He truly has given us His promised peace of mind and purpose for living in a fearful and frustrating world. They are looking to us for answers to the troubles and turmoils of their own lives.

When they look, what do they see? A people at peace? A people with purpose? A people content with what they have and committed to what they're doing? What do they see? When they seek, what are they offered? Letting our lights shine in the midst of darkness is the greatest evangelistic power and potential open to us today. It may be our only opportunity in many cases. It is open!

The world is looking for a better way, but it is tired of hearing empty religious rhetoric and hollow religious hype. It is tired of being the impersonal object of another religious survey. What the world wants and what it needs is a personal demonstration of Christ living in

--cont. on back

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION

This Sunday, Oct. 2 marks the beginning of our drive to retire one of the mortgages on the church property. Some five years ago we borrowed \$30,000 to purchase the property north of our building on US 20. This mortgage was for 20 years at 9½% interest and subject to change every five years. That time will be up on Dec. 23, 1983. The renewal interest rate will probably be around 13 to 13½%. The present monthly payment of \$279.64 will be increased to \$342.18.

With a present balance of \$27,044 a renewal rate at 13% would increase the total interest to be paid to \$34,548. We believe that the church could make better use of the Lord's money if this mortgage could be eliminated.

There are about 40 family units in the congregation. If these 40 families could give \$676.00 the mortgage could be retired. However, not everyone is able to give the same amount. But those who could give more could make up the difference in those who give less.

The best suggestion that we can think of is for each one of us to do all we can, possibly taking from savings, make some sacrifices on something we need or want, sell some of those things just sitting around not being used, or maybe just borrow some money which we could pay back on a monthly basis.

With a common goal and love for the church, we believe that this is a goal that we can achieve in getting this mortgage retired.

-Perry Miller

CAMP INDOGAN FALL BANQUET

A first for Camp Indogan, an Associates Banquet in the Fall. The date is Saturday, Oct. 8, at 6:00 PM. This is an opportunity to help the camp and also get to fellowship with other area Christians. The tickets will be \$10.00 per person and can be obtained from Dean or Devon. Since the food will be prepared by volunteers, the bulk of the money should be realized by the camp. A fantastic meal has been planned by George Welker. The evening program will also include singing, awards, and an update from the Camp President.

SHULTS-LEWIS

Shults-Lewis Childrens Home informs us that this years Annual Open House was one of the best they have ever had. The attendance was approximately 1200. They reported many new faces were on the grounds visiting and asking about child care at the home.

The partial count from the Change-for-Children cans has already reached \$32,000.00. The church here was given a special thanks for supplying the hot dogs at one of the food tents. Start making your plans to attend next year's Annual Day right now.

A WORD OF APPRECIATION

This month marks the start of our 12th year of work with the church in LaGrange. These have been some of the most wonderful years in our family's life. We love and appreciate each and every one of you. You have helped us to grow into being more useful servants for the Master. Thanks again for all the love you've shown us thru the past 11 years. We love you all.

Norm, Marilyn & Family

SINGING

Once again we have the privilege of singing with the residents at the area nursing homes. We meet first at Millers at 4:30 PM and then proceed to LaGrange at 5:10. Come and lend your encouragement to these who are less fortunate than us.

WORD OF APPRECIATION

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts, calls and prayers for Michelle. They really meant alot.

-Mike Hall family

LADIES INSPIRATION DAY

You and your friends are cordially invited to attend an Inspiration Day by the Steuben County church in Angola. on Saturday, Oct. 22. The theme is "Make Me a Channel of Blessing". Lunch will be furnished by the ladies at no cost. Reservations will be necessary.

-- cont' from front

who were closest to Him left Jesus to face His death alone. People whom Jesus had never wronged lied about Him. Wicked men physically assaulted Him. Unholy and ungrateful mobs jeered Him as death slowly overshadowed the cross. And yet, in this most desperate hour, Jesus continued His life of service to the end. He provided for His earthly parent. He saved a thief from eternal death. He invoked God's forgiveness on the very ones who had put Him to death. Even though He was desperately alone, He served to the end.

Somehow it is a little more difficult to become discouraged when we really consider what Christ endured. Those problems which seem like mountains suddenly are anthills at the foot of the cross. Dare we let Satan shackle us with despair when our Master was victorious over all? God reminded Elijah that he was not alone in Israel, and neither are we alone in spiritual Israel. Let that faithful band unite and endure to the end.

-Chuck Barrington

"And they continued steadfastly..." (Acts 2:42)

	10/2	10/9	10/16	10/23	10/30
Bible Classes	100	104	90	104	101
Morning Worship	140	140	111	134	138
Contribution	\$958	\$1148	\$755	\$1019	\$672
Wed. Bible Study		84	72	87	

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	Evening Worship	6:00 PM
CHRIST	WEDNESDAY	
	Bible Study	7:00 PM
AT	THURSDAY	
	Keenagers	10-12:00 AM
LAGRANGE		

VOL. 18

November 6, 1983

NO. 8

DISCOURAGEMENT - SATAN'S TOOL

Satan has many powerful tools at his disposal to accomplish his purposes, but the most effective device which he can use to cripple a faithful Christian is discouragement. It is as easy as opening one's eyes to become discouraged. To observe the self-will, inconsistencies, and laxity of others who call themselves Christians rushes the earnest servant of God headlong into despair until he laments with Elijah: "...I, even I only, am left..." (I Kings 19:14) At times it is all one can do to keep from throwing up his hands and wailing, "What's the use?" It is at times like these that we ought to pause and consider the crucified Jesus.

Never was anyone so entitled to discouragement and despair as our Lord. He had labored among the masses for three years. He had blessed them not only by healing their infirmities and allowing them to witness the marvelous power of Almighty God, but He gave to them words whereby they might be saved. He had petitioned the Father on their behalf; He befriended those who had no friends; and He brought peace to lives that before had no hope of ever finding peace.

How was He thanked? In His greatest hour of need He had no one to hold His hand, to offer assurance that all would be for the best. Those twelve men who were

--cont' on back

AND THE LORD ADDED...

We rejoice over the recent addition of two precious souls to the body of Christ.

Mrs. Terry Dowden responded to the Lord's invitation by being baptized into Christ on Sunday, October 23. Terry had studied with Joe and Lois Oakley some time ago. Terry is a sister of Elaine Moser.

Debbie Campbell was baptized on Friday, October 28 at 2:00 p.m. after a study with Mark Turney. Debbie is the foster daughter of Norm and Merilyn.

Let's all be sure to welcome our new sisters into the family of God. Their addresses are:

Mrs. Terry Dowden
314 Pontiac St.
Ligonier, IN 46767
ph. 1-894-4327

Debbie Campbell
c/o N.L. Herron
R.R.5, Box 13
LaGrange, IN 46761
ph. 463-3571

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION

This Sunday is the day for our special contribution. We hope to completely retire our loan/mortgage of \$27,044 on the property along US 20.

This action will save the church thousands of dollars in interest and make available some much needed funds for furthering the gospel.

Each member is encouraged to do their part. Everyone, from the youngest to the oldest, can have a part in this victory for Christ.

Recently the Garnett Rd. church in Tulsa, OK contributed over \$1.5 million in a single day. This was the third largest contribution ever given by any church in the USA. The Garnett church has 1800 members.

We too can reach our goal, but each will have to do their part.

VIDEO BIBLE CLASS

The first session of the Video Bible Class met on Thursday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 9:30 a.m. The study is on the book of Revelation with Jim McGuigan as the teacher. The cost is \$10 per person or \$15 per family (includes price of study guide). The classes meet at the home of Warren and Susan Turney who have graciously opened their home for our use. For more information see Norm.

FALL CAMP BANQUET - A SUCCESS!!

\$1,040 was raised for Camp Indogan at the first Annual Fall Associates Banquet at Camp Indogan on October 8. 104 people enjoyed a delicious meal which was cooked by George Welker and Bradie Anderson and served by the other board of directors. The camp honored Wray and Violet Newkirk for the valuable service they have given as custodians for the past ten years. Entertainment was provided by the singing group "The Followers" from Muncie, In.

THANKSGIVING FELLOWSHIP

The church in Kendallville is hosting the Fourth Annual Thanksgiving Fellowship on November 18, at 6:30 p.m. This is a special evening of sharing and praising for all area Christians. The meal will be provided and no charge is specified for the evening. They ask that reservations be made with Larry Dickson (1-347-5862) so they can be sure of having enough food. This would be a wonderful time to thank God for all His wonderful and bountiful blessings to us.

AREA HAPPENINGS...

Ladies Spiritual Enlightenment Day November 5 at the Reed Rd. church in Ft. Wayne. Registration begins at 9:00am. The theme is "A Very Special Time". Lunch will be served by the ladies at Reed Rd.

Second Annual Youth Rally at the Willowdale church in Elkhart on November 4-5. The theme is "Rising of the Youth" with Chuck Barrington. Ray Caudill and Jim McCutchen as speakers. Overnight accommodations provided with no registration fee.

Mid America Bus Rally at Lindberg Rd. church in Anderson on November 4-6. Featured speakers include Pat Casey and G.P. Holt.

Fospel Meeting at Steuben Co. church in Angola on November 13-16 with Keith Hatcher speaking.

Michigan Christian College in Rochester, Mich. is hostin a Fall Junior-Senior Weekend on Nov. 11-12. The program will enable perspective college hopefuls to tour the campus and engage in some of the school's classes and extra activities.