

NEWS AND NOTES

Sister Goldie Pulley has undergone surgery and will remain in the Elkhart General Hospital for about a week. She is gradually regaining her strength and appreciates short visits. Her room number is 460. If you cannot go to see her, she would appreciate a card.

A letter has been received from the church at South bend (Donnoyer Ave.) concerning the Italy work. There has been a full report made by way of slides and recording which the church there is willing to send here, since we had a part in this project. We might consider today the best time to have this presentation made, for all to hear.

Remember the singing at Mark's Nursing Home this evening at 6:30. We need the help of all who are willing to come. Everyone appreciates the fine turn-outs in the past.

Indications are that there will be several visitors at our services ahead. Let's do our best to show them Christianity in action.

Earl Gieseke
Route #4 Box 46
Lagrange, Indiana 46761

L A G R A N G E

C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

E X H O R T E R

April 7, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
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"A tiny good deed
counts more than
a huge intention."
Sel.

N O C O R P S E

A Moslem one day said to a Christian missionary, "We have proof in our religion that you do not have. When we go to Arabia we can find the tomb of the Prophet so that we have proof that he lived. When you go to Jerusalem you cannot be sure that you have the burial place of Jesus. You have no tomb as we have."

"True," replied the missionary, "we have no tomb in our religion because we have no corpse. Our gospel ends not in a corpse, but in a Conqueror."

Selected

* * * * *

"A noble part of every true life is to
learn to undo what has been wrongly done."

Selected

A CURRENT PROBLEM #2

This is the second article on this vital social and church problem. As was mentioned in the first article the things said are about the society as a whole, but the church must share a part of the responsibility.

I am worried as ~~in~~ the youth because they don't have enough of the right kind of examples to look to for guidance. Who can the youth of this nation look to for their ideals? Who can they watch for their examples of morals and standards in general. With whom can they identify as an exemplary model? In whose footsteps can they follow? I'm not speaking about your son or daughter or mine only, but all the youth of the country in which we live.

Shall our children in our town go across the tracks to the tavern, or up on the main street to the pool hall? Can they look to the political leaders of the day? Many of our governmental agencies are so corrupt that a Christian would not run for a political office. What happened to the Washingtons, the Adams, the Lincolns, the Garfields? Nothing. They are still around, but they are being reared by parents who read Doctor Benjamin Spock instead of the book of Proverbs. Dr. Spock advocates the use of psychology and permissiveness while Solomon endorses the use of common sense and the rod of correction.

We are a generation who believe in early marriages and quick divorces. We have too many parents who have not and will not accept the full responsibility of parenthood. Of the poor students, grade wise and conduct wise, many are from second and third marriages and from homes where both parents work. I realize that sometimes it is absolutely essential for mothers to work. but I also believe that if there is any possible way, that the mother should be at home as long as there are any of the children too young to go to school.

Where will the youth find guidance? Where will they find guidance? Parents, I can tell you one

thing, your children will not learn everything they know at your knee. Knowing this, we must instill in them at an early age the moral principles they will need all their life. This must be done before they are exposed to the wrong kind of things in the world. In my experience working with youth, one of the most common things is lack of communication. In my experience working with youth, one of the most common complaints I hear is: I can't talk to my parents. There is often a lack of channels of communication in the home. Looking back to my own youth I can see that this was true for me too.

It would be well if they could learn everything at your knee, but they can't. Every person they meet will have some influence on them. It may be either good or bad. Not all immoral people they meet will have a bad effect on them. In some cases it may have a good effect. They may see in them what they don't want to become. From the alcoholic they may learn to hate alcohol and the sin it causes. They may become better citizens by seeing the poor citizen. Where will our youth find their examples for living? We would hope they could look to the Christians. But how many people are really Christians? We need to take a strong stand against all sin. There is no other way to get rid of it. Of course you will be laughed at, but God will not be laughing. On the Day we stand before the judgment bar we will be rewarded for the right things we did in this life, not the popular things. Figure the difference in the reward for being popular and for being godly. Which do you desire. Live a life before young and old that will show Christ in you, your hope of glory. May God give us the wisdom and courage to be an example to all.

E. E. G.

NEWS AND NOTES

Tragedy has again struck the Kuykendall family. As the Harvey Kuykendall's were traveling home from worship services at Garrett last Wednesday evening, they were hit by a car on the passenger side (a car traveling on the wrong side of the road, driven by a group who had been drinking). Steve, Harvey's son was killed instantly, and Susan, a daughter, died twenty minutes later at the hospital. Funeral services were yesterday at the Garrett church building. Words cannot express the sympathy which we hold for this family after having lost their son, Eric's wife, Joyce, by cancer and now the loss of two of their children. This clearly shows the uncertainties of life, but to a Christian family, it enhances the place that our Lord has prepared where there are no uncertainties, no death, no pain, no sorrow, only joy and happiness. We can do very little now but to repeat the words of the inspired writer, "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified!"

Sister Ellen Hostetler and Thelma Hoggatt have requested each family to save toothpaste caps for future tray favor use.

There is much work to be done at Camp Indogan to get it into shape for a meeting there on May 2 & 3. The camp here is to be host to several other camps from several states at this meeting. There is both outside and inside work to be done. Efforts are being made for large turnouts the next two Saturdays. Can you arrange to come?

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L A G R A N G E

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

April 14, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
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If our lights are shining as brightly as they should, our neighbors will never wonder whether we are Christians.

Slander

Slander is said to slay three people: the one speaking, the one spoken to and the one spoken of. Before speaking evil of anyone, friend or foe, let the words which are about to be uttered pass three gates: 1. Is it true? 2. Will the speaking of these words do harm? 3. Will it do any good? Unless your words can pass these three gates, lock them in your own heart 'til the judgment! May God help us all to manage our unmanageable tongues with grace! "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth." (James 3:5).
Selected

A smile is a curve that can set a lot of things straight.

THE SUPREME QUEST OF LIFE

I doubt that the world has ever known such uncertainties and unrest. In our day as in the days of David, people are asking, "Who will show us any good?" The valley between the party of God's will and the party of self-will is still clearly evident. Consciously or unconsciously we all rank on one side or the other.

The people as a whole are still asking, "Who will show us any good?" Where can we find happiness? On every hand we find those with the same illusion--the notion that happiness exists outside of us instead of within. Happiness, people think, can be purchased, packed in crates or boxes, poured out of bottles, caught in excited crowds, or assured by deeds or certificates duly signed. Everywhere we see the folly of the "broken cisterns" (Jer. 2:13). People are going madly from one broken cistern that will not hold water to hew out another broken cistern that will hold no water, while at the same time neglecting the "Fountain of living waters".

The world needs to look up and live. Isaiah encouraged those to come who were thirsty, those who had no money, to be filled by God. The question asked was, "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not?" This is the worldling's basic mistake. It is the inward deliverance, not the outward, that we most need. Money, worldly positions, pleasures of sin cannot give these things.

We need to become intensely conscious of God. The thought of Him must fill every faculty and solve every need or problem. We, as true believers, know that the real source of joy is God Himself. He is exalted as the Rock, Shield, Sun, High Tower, Fortress, Refuge, Strength, Salvation, their Exceeding Joy! This is even

more so as we know, or rather are known of God, in Christ. One of the features of this joy is the peace it brings; the sense of security and comfort it gives in our life. "The world passeth away, and the lusts thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

Afflictions may come. For a while it may seem that the wicked may prevail; but we know what the end must be. What can come from opposition to God but ruin? Reflection confirms our faith and strengthens our attachment to God. The future of the wicked is dark; but the future of the Christian is bright with promise. Aren't you glad that you are a Christian? Don't you wish that all people were? What a wonderful place this would be to live if all men everywhere shared the common faith and worshipped the only true and living God according to His dictates. We can help to make this a reality by leading others to Christ. Won't you share your Christ with someone? Won't you show people the "really good?"

Do you feel you need help before you can lead others to Christ? If you do not feel confident that you can show "the Way" to another, won't you let someone teach you "the Way" more perfectly? I, or any Christian, will be more than happy to help you in any way we can. If you feel any need of help you need only ask and you can receive what little help I can give you. We have been saved to save others. If you had a cure for an incurable disease wouldn't you share it with others? Of course you would! The gospel is the only thing that can save mankind from sin. What doth hinder YOU?

~~Selected~~
E.F.G.

The only thing that is worse than a quitter is one who is afraid to begin.

Selected

No. He who, notwithstanding His apparent prodigality, created nothing without a purpose, and wasted not a single atom in all His creation, has made provision for a future life in which man's universal longing for immortality will find its realization.

I am sure that we shall live again as I am sure that we live today."

We witness in the grain of wheat a power we cannot understand nor duplicate: the power to come forth from the earthly grave in which it is planted with life fresh and new, and this demonstration continues for year after year. There is placed within the grain a germ, a life, a power to triumph over death and the grave, and yet we with all the known facts and devices of science at our command are powerless to isolate that life or power.

While here in the beginning of spring, we witness the whole creation of God stirring with new life and power, heretofore unseen and unfelt, "Why is it judged incredible with you, if God doth raise the dead?" Acts 26:8. --Selected

NEWS AND NOTES

There are some Shults Lewis Children's Home Calendars available in the lobby for the benefit of any who would like to contribute on a monthly basis. There are pre-addressed envelopes, also postage paid for our convenience. Let's not neglect this important work.

Applications for Camp Indogan are now available. Register early and look forward to an enjoyable two weeks with others your age, this summer.

LAGRANGE
CHURCH OF CHRIST
EXHORTER

April 21, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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Happiness adds and
multiplies as we divide
it with others.
--Sel.

NO DOUBT ON THE SUBJECT OF IMMORTALITY

William Jennings Bryan once delivered a lecture confirming the faith of young men and women in which he said:

"The Creator has not left us in doubt on the subject of immortality. He has given to every created thing a tongue that proclaims a life beyond the grave.

If the Father deigns to touch with divine power the cold and pulseless heart of the buried acorn and to make it burst forth from its prison walls, will He leave neglected in the earth the soul of man, made in the image of his Creator?

If He stoops to give to the rose-bush, whose withered blossoms float upon the autumn breeze, the sweet assurance of another springtime, will He refuse the words of hope to the sons of men when the frosts of winter come?

If matter, mute and inanimate, though changed by the forces of nature into a multitude of forms, can never die, will the imperial spirit of man suffer annihilation when it has paid a brief visit like a royal guest to this tenement of clay? cont.

MUST THE YOUNG DIE TOO?

Death seems so final; so cold and unreal. During the past three months I have seen the death of three young people who were plucked from the midst of friends and family without warning. All three were children of Christians who were trying to rear them in the Lord.

At the funeral of the two this past week I heard someone say: "It is so senseless." And we often hear someone say: "I don't understand why God would do this." First of all we need to realize that there are two forces at work in the world. In the case of the last double tragedy there was supposedly alcohol involved. I wouldn't give God the credit for Satan's work. Regardless of where the responsibility lies we can all learn a very vivid lesson.

First, all earthly things have an end. This world is marked by change. All things are temporary and transient. Life is a process, a preparation, a series of events culminated in death. For some it is many years; for some others only minutes, and all the rest of us are somewhere in between these two extremes. We need to realize that pleasures will end; therefore we need to live for higher interests. Sorrow will end; therefore we need to be patient and hopeful. Temptation will end; therefore we must be brave and strong for Christ. The opportunity for work will end; therefore we need to be diligent now for the night cometh when no man can work. This life will end; therefore we need to prepare for the life beyond. This world will end; therefore we need to take account of the other world in judging of the mysteries of present providence.

Secondly, we find that death is no respecter of persons. We too often feel that "me and mine" will live to a ripe old age and die a natural death in our sleep after we have said our nightly prayer. This may be true, but then stop and remember that every person who has died at a rela-

tively young age has thought the same thing. The German proverb says: "As soon as a man is born he is old enough to die." When I attend the funeral of a youth or read concerning one I stop and say to myself, "That could have just as well have been my only son." The tears I shed at such a funeral (and I surely do) are not for the dead, but for the living. I weep with the parents and the brothers and sisters. This is the least a Christian can do. There is no need to weep for the dead; we can do nothing for them. (This is not to infer that relatives and loved ones should not weep with those that weep and rejoice with those that rejoice.)

Cooke wrote, "Death comes with a crawl, or comes with a pounce, and whether he's slow or spry, it isn't the fact that you're dead that counts, but only, how did you die?" Some look upon death as a punishment, but death is a law, not a punishment. (Heb. 9:27) The dead have no tears and forget all sorrow. Some die without having really lived while others continue to live, in spite of the fact that they have died. (Heb. 11:4)

Therefore; let those of us who remain be busy in the Lord's work. If you are not a Christian--become one. If you are a luke-warm Christian--repent and pray God that this sin may be forgiven you. If you are a dedicated Christian--continue to walk therein.

Death's but a path that must be trod,
If man would ever pass to God.

E. E. G.

JUDGING FROM A DISTANCE

A BIG-LEAGUE UMPIRE once remarked that he could never understand how crowds in the grand-stands, hundreds of feet away from the plate, could see better and judge more accurately than he, when he was never more than a few feet away.

Another man commented that in life, too, we call strikes on a chap when we are too far away to understand. Perhaps if we had a closer view of the man and his problems, we would reverse our decision.

NEWS AND NOTES

Many thanks are in order for the ones who contributed toward the funds needed to replace the items taken from the kitchen at Camp Indogan; also special thanks should be given for those who turned out yesterday for work details. Much was accomplished, and everyone had an enjoyable time. It does one good to give both time and money for a cause which directly benefits the young people in this area. The forces of Satan are at work on every hand enticing especially the youth and we must provide them with every advantage possible for their spiritual development. We may never know this side of eternity the fruits of our efforts, but we may rest assured that our deeds do not go unseen. The children appreciate, and the Lord rewards.

PLAN NOW FOR THE COMING EVENTS:

Vacation Bible School here June 3 - 7.

Memorial Day - Camp Indogan - May 30

Men's Lectureship - Camp Indogan - June 7&8

Gospel Meeting here June 9 - 14

Family Camp - Camp Indogan - July 7 - 12

Schedule for camp sessions posted on bulletin board.
Applications now available.

Sister Pulley is still unable to attend services since her operation. Remember her in our prayers and visit her if you can.

Happy to have the Bill McBrides here for a few days. They are Fred and Nona Cox's daughter and son-in-law. Now that they are planning on ^{living} nearer home, we hope they can visit us oftener.

Earl Gieseke

Box 46 R#1

Lagrange, Indiana, 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

April 28, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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ATTEND CHURCH

REGULARLY

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH MRS. CRAIG?

This news item was seen in the Nashville Banner of June 19, 1956, about a Mrs. Craig of Porter, Okla., 81 years of age, who hasn't missed Sunday school in 20 years. The editor asks the following questions:

1. Doesn't Mrs. Craig ever have company on Sunday to keep her from church?
2. Doesn't she ever go anywhere on Saturday night, and get up tired Sunday morning?
3. Doesn't she ever have headaches, colds, nervous spells, tired feelings, poor breakfasts, sudden calls out of the city, business trips, Sunday picnics, or any other trouble?
4. Doesn't she ever sleep too late . . . ?
5. Doesn't it ever rain or snow in Porter on Sunday morning?

(Cont. on page 3)

"SOWING THE WIND"

Israel is seen here in the midst of idolatry. She has cast off God far from her. Worship of the golden calf and other forms of gods was the rage of the age. Israel, like America today had been a God-fearing nation in the past. God had been instrumental in her affairs, but now she had forgotten God and His goodness. But the prophet Hosea describes her as sowing the wind and reaping the whirlwind. They were worshipping idols which God had condemned in the decalogue. In brief, they were following their own ways rather than the ways of God.

It seems that we may learn a lesson from this verse. The writer implies more than merely vain labour that has an injurious and destructive result. It is a positive detriment.

The whirlwind indicates the vanity and nothingness of human effort alone. The whirlwind pictures the image of destruction and annihilation. It is like a hurricane or tornado tearing across the country sweeping the efforts of man before it. All of a man's life's work can be destroyed in one terrifying second by the "big whirlwind". And so it is with those things invented by men. Jesus said that every tree which had not been planted by the heavenly Father would be plucked up.

To "cast off" God is certainly sufficient in itself to merit any disfavor He might give, but to take unto ourselves idols of gold and other types of false gods is to heap insult on injury.

America today, has in general, cast God away. We have done this in many respects. Like the people in Romans 1:22, we have professed ourselves to be wise and have become fools. Some may call me an alarmist, but I see little except trouble in our future. I believe we have waited too long to plug the hole in the dike! The torrents already prevail in our land. The whirlwind is already sweeping across this country in violence and hate of every description. We must now try to build a

new dike. What else except sowing the wind has created this crisis in our country today?

Man has always tried to use someone else to blame his sins on. Sinners, perhaps, feel a little miserable satisfaction in endeavoring to make others the scapegoat of their own iniquities. Adam pushed his sin off on to Eve and Eve pushed her sin on to the serpent. Today the blacks blame the whites and the whites blame the blacks. But our trouble goes deeper than this. Our troubles in this day and time can be traced to the real cause of all trouble in the world--SIN.

Sin is a small word, but with terrible consequences. We might think of S as standing for Satan. He is the root and source of all trouble. Were it not for him we would not know sin. He is the father of all lies and liars. Lies and liars are what lead men from God!

We might let I stand for an individual. We choose to serve whom we will; whether it be God or sin. Everyone will bear their own burden of sin before God.

We might think of the N as representing neutrality. We often say, "But I am only one person; I can't do anything about this myself." If you don't, who will?

E. E. G. (More to follow,
Lord willing)

(cont. from front page)

6. Doesn't she ever get her feelings hurt by somebody at church?
7. Doesn't she ever read the Sunday paper?
8. Doesn't she ever get mad at the preacher or teachers?
9. Doesn't she have any friends at all---friends who invite her to a week end trip to the seashore or mountains?
10. Doesn't she have a radio or television so that she can listen to "some mighty good sermons from out of town"?

Will someone not tell us: "What is the matter with Mrs. Craig?"

Selected--

" WHAT CAN I PREACH ABOUT?"

A distinguished Arkansan, Brook Hays, tells of a new preacher assigned to a backwoods church. His first sermon, condemning horse racing, fell flat as a pancake. A deacon admonished him, "You reckless young fool, this area is noted for its fine horses and many members of this congregation earn their livelihood in the sport of kings." The next week, the new preacher enlarged upon the evils of smoking, only to incur the wrath of tobacco growers thereabouts. And the third Sunday, when he ranted about the evils of whiskey drinking, he discovered there was a big distillery less than five miles from the church.

Frustrated, he wailed, "What CAN I preach about here?"

"Preach agin them heathen witch doctors, "advised the deacon. "There ain't one of them within a thousand miles of us." --- Aim Bulletin, Nashville, Tenn.

NEWS AND NOTES

We were happy to have Sister Pulley back to services last Sunday. We hope that she will continue to improve.

Plan to help encourage the Mark's Nursing Home residents this evening at 6:30, by singing with us. They appreciate it so much.

Earl Gieseke
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LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

May 5, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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The great question is not what you make of the Bible, but what the Bible makes of you.

THE SECRET

*I met God in the morning
When my day was at its best;
And his presence came like sunrise,
Like a glory in my brest.*

*All day long the presence lingered,
All day long He stayed with me,
And we sailed in perfect calmness
O'er many a troubled sea.*

*So I think I know the secret
Learned from many a troubled way;
You must seek him in the morning
If you want Him through the day.*

--Selected

"SOWING THE WIND" #2

"I do not believe the greatest threat to our future is from bombs or guided missiles. I don't think our civilization will die that way. I think it will die when we no longer care. Arnold Toynbee has pointed out that 19 out of 21 civilizations have died from within and not by conquest from without. There were no bands playing and flags waving when these civilizations decayed. It happened slowly, in the quiet and the dark when no one was aware." (quote from Laurence M. Gould; President Emeritus, Carleton College.)

The truth of the words quoted above should send a chill through our bones.

In our first article on this topic of "Sowing the Wind" we talked about America and the path she is on. She is now, in general, following her own way instead of God's way. Our destiny as a nation is uncertain and dark, to say the least. If we follow the pattern of history we are doomed. We are already reaping the folly of "sowing the wind." The nothingness is our reward. We have become wise in our own eyes in the ways of this world; but we have become fools in the eyes of God. Paul said, "For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's." (Ph. 2:21)

We mentioned that we are casually trying to push our sins off on someone else, but this is useless. It did not work in the garden and it will not work today. We hear many say, "Everyone else is doing it." We are told that we shall not follow a multitude to do evil, and that every man shall bear his own burden. Sin is essentially a departure from God! Who or what we blame it on is unimportant. Sin is man's declaration of independence of God! Little sins are the pioneers of hell. Hell will be the harvest of man's sins; regardless of the excuses given.

We have mentioned that sin is the only cause of trouble. Satan is diligently at work to win souls from Christ. He has the pleasures of this world on his side. As a result of the outstanding job of recruiting that Satan has done America has lost her sense of shame. We may regard that person or nation as lost who have lost their sense of shame. Israel is pictured by Jeremiah as having lost her sense of shame, and the ability to blush. (Jer. 6:15)

America is sowing worthless seed. The more worthless the seed the more terrible the harvest on reaping; for the seed which is sown is greatly multiplied. We are sowing moral corruptness and we are, and shall continue to, reap the same. We are in the eyes of God, as Isaiah pictures Israel: "It shall be even as when a hungry man dreameth, and behold, he eateth; but he awaketh, and his soul is empty." (Isa. 29:8a)

One of the things we are experiencing now is neutrality. There just are not enough people who care. People do not want to get involved in anything that does not have dollar signs on it. Even in the church of our Lord we are experiencing apathy toward religious error and the lost of the world. People are too afraid of public sentiment. People are striving for popular applause regardless of the consequence. Individual lives show moral ruin and overthrow of all that is good following their rebellion against and estrangement from God.

Since punishment is often delayed it is even harder to get people to count the cost. Too many are going to be like the rich man in hell who realized, too late, the foolishness of a life of worldliness. The Bible does not tell us that he was a wicked man, in the way that we consider wickedness; simply that he cared sumptuously. Isn't this the way that the majority of Americans that we know are doing today?

E. E. G.

More to follow, Lord willing

NEWS AND NOTES

Just four (4) weeks from today our Gospel Meeting begins with Brother Billy Ringold of Danville, Illinois doing the preaching. Needless to say, the time is fast approaching. We are confident that Brother Ringold will do an effective job in sowing the seed, however preparing of the soil for the receiving of the seed is our job and should be done well in advance. HAVE YOU DONE ANY SPADE WORK LATELY? No matter how pure and good the seed may be or how diligent and effective the sower might be, still the preparation of the soil is a must for a successful yield. The plans for advertising the meeting call for coverage of Lagrange and Lagrange rural routes with the Star mailer (the back page telling about our meeting) and also the placement of two ads in the Lagrange Standard the two weeks before the meeting. These however require little work and time on our part and should not be a substitute for personal responsibility of talking to and inviting friends and neighbors to the meeting. Let's start now for preparation and when the 9th of June rolls around, we'll have something to work on.

Vacation Bible School - Week of June 2nd. The teachers material is in and should be taken and studied well in advance. A good vacation Bible School especially just before the gospel meeting would go far in building interest for the gospel meeting.

To make these opportunities work for the best, let's all WORK and PRAY and WORK with God that our prayers might be answered.

Earl Giesecke
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LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

May 12, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Giesecke, Minister 405 South Townline Road Route 4, Box 46 LaGrange, Indiana 46761 Telephone No. 463-3571	A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches and loving favour rather than silver and gold. Pr. 22:1
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MAKE YOUR HOUSE A HOME

It isn't the house you live in
Or your furniture or your car,
That make folks enjoy your company
But only how friendly you are.

You may not have gorgeous paintings
Or tapestries on the wall;
But you yourself, are the reason
Why people continue to call.

Why worry if money is scarce
Or things you have are old.
Your hospitality to friends
Means more than all the gold.

You will always have friends about you
If laughter is gay and sincere;
But you'll find a house isn't a home
Unless it's filled with good cheer. --Sel.

SOWING THE WIND #3

All men are sowing--each act is a seed, but the wind is a worthless seed. The wind is an emblem of emptiness and vanities. We have cast off that which is good and are spending our money and our souls for that which is not bread and for those things which satisfieth not. (Isa. 55:2) The country is filled with scoffers and those who ridicule the Bible as an inspired Book; the Word of God. Sin may open as bright as morning, but it will end dark as the night.

We are a nation who demand absolute truth in everything except the religion we have, or rather, profess to have at least. We are willing to accept anything that men dish out. People like me are called bigots, fanatics, and many other things. They will accept anyone as an authority in religion.

Imagine a person going to a doctor to have his appendix removed. The doctor asks him which mode of appendix operations he desires. The man, being a "layman" of course, did not realize you had a choice of modes. The doctor tells him that he uses a late mode--he removes the appendix through the foot. The doctor tells the patient that there is a doctor across the street who uses a still different mode--he takes the appendix out through the mouth. Or, if he desires, there is an old-fashioned doctor who is too narrow minded to change his mode who still takes the appendix out through the lower abdomen, which is the way all early doctors did it and the way recommended by all "standard medical textbooks." What do you suppose the patient decided?

What do people decide about baptism? There is a choice of "modes" today. Many have adopted the new modes while forsaking the baptism used by the early church and the Apostles. Some of us, however, like the old-fashioned doctor, still content that there is only one sensible way to baptize; the same as there is a sensible way to remove an appendix.

Who are some of the people who will reap the whirlwind?

First, there are the idolaters. There are many kinds of idolatry. There are those who set up their graven images and statutes. These are more open. Then there are those who covet the things of this world too much. (Col. 3:5) We are a riches oriented people. The main objective of most lives is the accumulation of as much of the things of this world as possible. The love of riches is like a millstone around the neck of America. It is pulling us slowly but surely to the depths of no return. The Bible speaks of God giving people up to the fleshly things of the world. (Rom. 1:18-32) God is without respect of persons. If He gave those people over to their own lust will He not do the same today? Jeremiah cried out to the people who had lost their sense of shame and the ability to blush to come back to the old paths. They replied that they would not walk therein. (Jer. 6:16)

Secondly, careless parents are destined to "reap the whirlwind." The book of Proverbs has many unread, unused, and unpopular suggestions for rearing children. Too many "modern" parents have, and still are, leaned on psychology too heavily. This has resulted in permissiveness and chaos in our society. As a teacher in the public school I am appalled at the values and ~~morals~~ or rather lack of, in our children today. They, in most cases, have little regard for the seriousness of lying and cheating. This attitude is learned! From whom is it learned? Parents, teachers and other associates.

E. E. G.

More to follow, Lord willing.

A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of the wicked. Psalm 37:16.

NEWS AND NOTES

We mentioned last week that the time was rapidly approaching for our gospel meeting and suggested that the best way of advertising it was personal invitations. This week I received a bulletin from the South Marion congregation which related a survey of a particular meeting in which every visitor was asked how he learned about the meeting. The results were tabulated and then evaluated by a point system. Here are the results of the survey:

Personal Invitation from Members	56
Announcements at other congregations	30
Letters and Cards from Members	22
Bulletin	21
Newspaper	17
Other Congregations' Bulletins	4
Signs in Yard	3

It is obvious that the method of personal invitations was the most effective. Many of the other things will be done, but "letters and cards from members" and "personal invitations" must be done by each of us and the success of the meeting will largely depend our doing it.

COMING EVENTS:

May 30 Fellowship day at Camp Indogan
Vacation Bible School June 3-7.
Men's Lectureship at Camp Indogan June 7&8.
Gospel Meeting June 9-14
Family Camp at Indogan July 7-12

Earl Gieseke
Route #4, Box 46
Lagrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

May 19, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30	A. M.
Worship Service	10:30	A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30	P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30	P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 Soth Townline Road
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

REMEMBER -----
Vacation Bible
School

June 3 thru 7

DEAR TEEN SON OR DAUGHTER

I know we've all heard the saying, about the young of today; "Their 'wild oats' they have to sow," is what their parents do say.

Now Son or Daughter, you're very young, you've many years to go; Go out with the crowd, and have your fun. We understand, that as a teen, your oats you've got to sow.

Don't get involved with Church just yet; there's plenty of time for that; after all, my child, you're just a teen, your fun you 'll not regret.

If you become a Christian now, you'll miss a lot of fun; There's dances to go to, clubs to join, my son--ry daughter, does this seem wrong?

I want the very best for you. My child, that is the truth; But to tie yourself to Christ

(Cont. page 3)

SOWING THE WIND #4

Parents who would rear their children in the Lord must work much harder to offset this trend in our society. As a teacher and worker in our youth camp I must say that not all of this problem is outside the church. Although the percent may be low in the church, it is still too high. This means that we must work harder at being parents. Being a parent who is trying to the best of my feeble ability to rear my only child in the Lord, I am gravely concerned about the problem. As has been well said: "No man is an island." Our children must live in the society the same as we must. We cannot simply go into a monastery or nunnery and say, "Out of sight out of mind." We are faced with a very real problem.

Since I did not have Christian parents I can begin to appreciate what I have missed. This again emphasizes the importance of marrying "in the Lord" if at all possible. Look at "good old" Eli, Aaron, David and others in God's word who "reaped the whirlwind." It seems in America today that parenthood consists of making the payment on the color T.V. and finding out who the babysitters are who can operate a can opener. Someone told me that you are old-fashioned if you can remember when the babysitter was called--Mother.

Look at the hippies (if you can stomach it) and try to imagine a loving, devoted mother pouring out her love to him or her. (if you can tell the difference) What produces this kind of children? Parents who have tried to substitute money and toys and babysitters for love and discipline. I believe these people are made-not born. This points up the importance of the environment we provide at home. One of the indications of perilous times is disobedient children. (2 Tim. 3:2) America has "sown the wind and is reaping the whirlwind" as far as parenthood is concerned.

We could mention inconsistent Christians and others, but I believe that enough, and perhaps too much, has already been said. But I strongly believe that America is at a crossroads in history. I love my country and hate to see it decaying from within. I shall try in what ever small way I can to prevent this from happening. I want to enlist the help of all who are likeminded.

I believe it is too late to plug the dike, but it is not too late to build a new dike. The only foundation upon which we can build are those standards laid down in God's Word. My prayer to God for America is that she might be saved.

E. E. G.

Cont. from front page--

just now seems a waste for such a youth.

DEAR MOM AND DAD

I know you think I'm young and don't know what I'm doing; You think if I become a Christian, my youth I'm going to ruin.

My "wild oats" need not be sown, as you keep telling me; I have no desire to be with that crowd. I wish I could make you see.

My youth I want to give to God, to work both day and night; Those dances and clubs you want for me, to me do not seem right.

Mom and Dad, I love you . . . but I cannot live as you say; I know what God wants me to do, and a Christian I've become today.

My whole life I wish to dedicate, and God only will I serve; I wish to go other places, and teach to them God's Word.

--Selected
Views for Youth

NEWS AND NOTES

We were happy to witness another precious soul last Sunday afternoon, obey the gospel and put on Christ. Carl Knox, son of Brother and Sister James Knox of Cincinnati, Ohio expressed his desire to do this. Some recent events occurred in his life which led him to this thinking but we are confident that back of it all there was the parental teaching and example of obedience to the Lord's will. We are all thankful to the Lord that his life was spared and that now he, as well as every other soul who has responded to the Lord's invitation, can live in that blessed hope that gives a new meaning to life. The Lord spoke through John, "Be thou faithful until death, and I will give thee a crown of life" Rev. 2:10. We encourage Carl to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord that he himself might show the way unto others.

Brother Grissom (preacher of the Mishawaka congregation) called to say that the area-wide fellowship banquet had to be rescheduled due to date conflicts and now it was set for Friday evening this week instead of Saturday evening. He asked that Lagrange be represented by several families if at all possible. See the bulletin board for directions to the restaurant.

Congratulations are certainly in order for our high school graduates, Ruth Wilson and Kathy Hoggatt. It is with mixed emotions that we see them enter a new phase of life. Education alone is not enough, but only as it relates to a more useful life in service for the master. They both plan to be around until school starts in the fall, when they continue their training at Michigan Christian College.

Don't forget VBS and Gospel meeting is close. Prepare.

Earl Gieseke
Route #4, Box 46, Lagrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

May 26, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

Those who bring sunshine into the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves. --Sel.

A PHYSICIAN'S PRESCRIPTION

Some time ago a woman went to consult a famous physician about her health. She was a woman of nervous temperament. She gave the doctor a list of her symptoms, and answered his questions, only to be astonished at his brief prescription at the end: "Go home and read your Bible an hour every day; then come back to me a month from today." And he bowed her out before she could protest. At first she was inclined to be angry; then she reflected that the prescription was not an expensive one. She went home determined to read conscientiously her neglected Bible. In a month she went back to the doctor's office a different person, and asked how he knew that was just what she needed. For answer the physician turned to his desk. There, worn and marked, lay an open Bible. "Madam," said he, "if I were to omit my daily reading of this Book I would lose my greatest source of strength and skill."

--Wellspring

From the preacher's desk:

As you know I have resigned from my teaching job here. Due to the noisy environment in which I have worked for the past four years and my own health (of mind), I felt it best to resign. I have accepted a similiar position in the Westview School System which will enable me to continue to work with the church here. I will be in a new building with no recesses to cause noise outside the window.

My family and I are happy to continue our work here. I have been led to believe that God's providence works in our lives. As long as we continue to work here I want to pledge my support to the preaching of the gospel. I want to ask you as a church and as individuals to increase your efforts in the days ahead. Each of us can be more effective in the cause of Christ.

I would like to express my appreciation to each of you who have been patient and longsuffering. I know of no place that I had rather be on this earth. Your willingness to give of your time, talent and money has been expressed many times in the past. Your love for the Lord and for another is known throughout this area of Indiana. I am thankful for the peace and harmony that exists here. I believe there is more internal peace here than about any place I know. As long as we recognize that each of us as individuals will have differences of opinions and treat them as opinions we can continue this path.

Since I "make tents" for a living rather than living by the gospel, I feel free in asking you to redouble your individual efforts. Not having a full-time preacher makes it necessary for each member to accept a greater responsibility in bringing people to a knowledge of the truth. In

the times ahead I know the church will be successful to the extent that you make it successful. My job as a teacher is only a means to an end; that being: "that I might present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."

We must succeed; for a Savior who died for us; for a God who loves us; for a community and a world which is lost in sin; for our own soul who's salvation depends on our carrying out the great commission. So let us continue to go forward. By our collective efforts we can continue to make progress. I believe some progress has been made, though perhaps through no effort of mine, since I have been here. Precious souls have been added; (and some subtracted) many physical improvements have been made; many people have studied the Bible through the correspondence courses; many sermons have been preached to Christians and non-Christians. Many joys await us, here and hereafter, if we press on to the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us watch for opportunities that God will provide for us. Let us bear more precious fruit. Let us continue to let Christ live in US.

E. E. G.

RETURN TO GOD

If there is any hope for the future of America, if there is to be peace and happiness in our homes, then we, as a nation, must return to God and the practice of daily prayer. Can we have peace without morality? Can we build homes without God? Or have worthy parents who do not know and practice His teachings? A godless home is built upon the sands; it is an inviting breeding ground for moral decay and crime.

--J. Edgar Hoover



FOR TRANSPORTATION
CALL
4632794 or 4633571

VACATION

CALLING
ALL
CHILDREN

BIBLE

SCHOOL

THIS WEEK
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
TIME: 9:30 - 11:30 A.M.

ENJOY:

1. BIBLE STUDY
2. SINGING
3. FILMSTRIPS
4. FUN TIME
5. REFRESHMENTS

LAGRANGE
CHURCH OF CHRIST
EXHORTER

June 2, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

COMING -----
Vacation Bible
School--June 3--7
Gospel Meeting
June 9 thru 14

FORGIVING EACH OTHER

The Heart of our religion is mercy--God's loving heart forgiving us and our loving hearts forgiving each other. Our scripture reading (Matt. 6:12) demands three things. If these three are neglected we can quickly destroy meaningful human relationships.

First, I am responsible to go directly to my brother when some wrong, imagined or real, harms our fellowship. Too often we violate God's will and reject his wisdom by going to others first.

Second, as God's child, I must show mercy to others and that as often as it is needed.

Third, my forgiveness must be genuine, "from the heart," for God's forgiveness is based upon my willingness to forgive. If I fail to show mercy while seeking mercy, I am selfish indeed. (cont.)

Earl Gieseke
R#4 Box 46
Lagrange, Indiana 46761

REVERENCE IN WORSHIP

"It may be that age tends to sober a person yet for more than 40 years I have written and been concerned about the seemingly irreverence among us in our worship services. In my opinion, if ever a people needed teaching on any subject we need it on how to worship. It is the only activity of the local church that I have ever had a desire for a leading part.

Frankly, the most fundamental thing, as I experience it, about worship is concentration--a time when a person's heart is in tune with his Creator. This does not always have to be in a state of quietness. Many times when I feel the nearest to God it is during the exuberant singing of some great hymn if sung by trained voices which appear filled with spirit. A person directing our mind in prayer is not to whisper it--It is not the noise that distracts from one's worship but rather confusion--unruly children, disinterested and inattentive older persons--those who twist and turn and make life miserable for the person sitting behind. In my opinion, any person attempting to worship God while chomping on a wad of gum is not only ill mannered before man but disrespectful before God. Just imagine if you will any of these kinds of things taking place at a common funeral! You just don't "flop down" at such an occasion.

There was a riot when they crucified the Lord--there is no question about that--but the riot is still going on in many places where men and women who are supposed to be gathered to eat of His body and drink of His blood. May God help us to learn the meaning of reverence." From ACTION; by Jirmie Lovell)

All I can say is: A-men.

When the first song starts we should be in our seats ready to worship God. There is very little reason to be late at services. It is simply a matter of planning ahead. I for one do not like to lead a prayer when people are visiting in the vestibule.

Gum surely has no place in church services or Bible classes. In my experience as a teacher I have yet to see it add anything to a person's ability to talk. The person who is "hooked" on gum isn't much ahead of the one who is "addicted" to nicotine! I know this is not a popular topic, but I am used to writing and speaking about unpopular things. As the janitor for the past two months I can say that the gum wrappers are a problem too. The money could be well spent for other things that would be more beneficial.

E. E. G.

(Cont. from front page)

Our sins against God and each other produce guilt. To receive forgiveness and cleansing of guilt is one of our sweetest blessings. If we are thus blessed, may God help us to realize the blessing we bestow upon others when we "forgive from the heart" the transgressions against us. Sympathy, kindness, long-suffering, concern, pity, and other great characteristics are found in showing mercy.

May God enlarge our hearts so that we might forgive "till seven times seventy."

----Selected

(cont. from page 3)

Another lesson we might draw from the shingle nail is when a man flies off the handle and does something for spite, he not only hurts himself, but he drags somebody else down with him. We don't live and work to ourselves. We take something away from or we give something to, every person we contact.

Let not any man think that his place is unimportant. Satisfaction will come in one way or another, even if it is only in the knowledge that he has done his best.

--via Rochester, Ind.
Bulletin

NEWS AND NOTES

We welcome Brother Billy Ringold in our presence today and look forward to a profitable and inspiring week. We are confident of his ability to present the saving message of God's word in humility, simplicity and sincerity. For this reason, we should not hesitate to invite any whom we meet to attend the services. Let us all support our meeting every night and also attend the morning class if at all possible. The subject of this class will be on the minor prophets with present day applications. The class begins at 9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. If you know of anyone who would like to come to any of these services and does not have a way, call 463-2794 or 463-3571 and transportation will be provided.

Welcome home - Mary Wilson from David Lipscomb College. We are happy that she will be with us all summer.

Earl Gieseke
RR#4 Box 46
Lagrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

June 9, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister 405 South Townline Road Route 4, Box 46 LaGrange, Indiana 46761 Telephone No. 463-3571	Come, worship with us, where the gospel is preached in kindness and love and where there are no strangers, everyone is welcome.
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THE SHINGLE NAIL

As the story goes--they built a new church. People came from near and far to see it. They admired the art-glass window. They were delighted with the frescoing on the walls. The carpet was their delight. The preachers especially were carried away with the handsome pulpit Bible.

Away up in the roof a little four-penny nail held a shingle. He heard the people praising everything else but nobody mentioned the shingle nail or seemed to be conscious of his existence. Whereupon the shingle nail got mad and said. "I have been on my job faithfully and I get no recognition. If I am that insignificant, nobody would miss me so I will quit." So he pulled out and raced down the steep roof to the soft ground below. That night came a big rain and the shingle nail was buried in the mud. The difference between this last and the first estate is that before,

(cont. on page 3)

"HOW TO MAKE THE CHURCH GROW
IN YOUR COMMUNITY"

By Don Gardner

". . . And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (Acts 2:42) Since the church had daily additions it was a growing church or a church on the march.

Is the church growing in your community? It should be. But churches do not flourish accidentally. What can we do to promote church growth in Allene, Jackson, Nashville or Pittsburgh?

1. We must attract attention and interest.

In the infancy of the church there were miracles which arrested attention of people. The cure of the lame beggar provided Peter with the opportunity to preach the second gospel sermon on record.

(Acts 3.) The miraculous display of God's wrath against the hypocrisy of Ananias and Sapphira brought fear "upon as many as heard these things." (Acts 5:11)

But miracles have ceased. How is the church to gain attention in a world of promoters and schemers all clamoring to be heard?

Many things will attract attention but will not hold the interest of sinners. Spill a can of red paint and produce a picture which will cause viewers to revel in its beauty. So, a church "fuss" attracts attention but it will not stimulate an active interest in learning more about the Lord.

To arouse more than passing interest a congregation may do many things, such as:

(a) Develop a friendly attitude. A well-kept building and a friendly welcome to visitors are effective. Let every congregation adopt the motto, "Every visitor is a welcome guest."

(b) Good Singing of spiritual songs (Eph. 5:19) will attract attention. It did when Paul and Silas sang in prison. (Acts 16:25.) We need to study and work on this until we sing with fervor and in the right attitude.

(c) Faithfulness in attending the services OF THE CHURCH ON THE PART OF ALL MEMBERS WILL ATTRACT ATTENTION. (Heb. 10:25) Cornelius called together "his kinsmen and near friends." (Acts 10:24) First, we must attend. Second, a friendly invitation will often work wonders.

In short, our activities are to be calculated to cause us to have "favor with all the people." (Acts 2:47.)

2. We must inspire confidence in people. If we are not sold on the church we cannot hope to convince others. "Nothing convinces like conviction."

--Selected

(cont. from front page.)

he was obscure but useful; now he is obscure but not useful. Furthermore, before, he was protected by the dry spot where his duty called him; now he will soon be eaten up with rust.

But that is not the worst of it. The shingle that the nail held, unable to function longer without the cooperation of the shingle nail, blew away and left a hole in the roof. The same big rain that buried the shingle nail leaked in through the vacant space the shingle had left and into the beautiful auditorium. It ran down the charming fresco leaving it all marred; it leaked on the pulpit Bible and it came to pieces; it leaked on the carpet and disfigured it--all because one shingle nail in a fit of vanity and jealousy refused to stay on his job.

Now, let's draw some lessons from this story. The little tasks that at the time seem so unimportant to us may in reality be of great significance. Most of us do not refuse to do our bit because of jealousy, as did the shingle nail. Our great weakness, I believe, is good intentions which are never carried out. We plan to do certain things that we know should be done, but never do them. We make plans and we are going to work them, but before we realize it, time has slipped away, and we get so far behind that we feel, Oh, what's the use!"

(cont. on back page.)

NEWS AND NOTES

We are happy to have visiting with us today Brother and Sister Paul Hosse, their family and sister Hosse's parents, brother and sister Tarply. Many of the congregation here remember the Hosse's and their work here with this congregation from 1957 to 1959. We are very happy to be with them again and meet the additions to their family since they left. He will be speaking this morning in the place of brother Gieseke who with his family are visiting relatives in Kentucky. Brother Gieseke will be back for next Lord's Day according to plans now.

Having our Vacation Bible School and Gospel Meeting now behind us, we should make every effort to contact those who showed interest in coming to these meetings. Opportunities have been opened unto us which we must take advantage of. We should be better prepared to do this from the good lessons which brother Ringold brought us.

GOSPEL MEETINGS IN THE AREA:

The meeting at Coldwater, Michigan is to continue through Tuesday evening of next week. Remember if you plan to go, get there at 7:30 EDT.

Meeting to begin at the Jefferson Rd. congregation at Mishawaka next week. Exact dates will be announced later. We all have double reason to attend this meeting since brother Joe Hazelbaker, who held our meeting for us last year, is doing the preaching.

Earl Gieseke
Route #4, Box 46
Lagrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

June 16, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister 405 South Townline Road Route 4, Box 46 LaGrange, Indiana 46761 Telephone No. 463-3571	"The religion of Christ is not an uncertain way of looking at some things, but it is a certain way of looking at all things." --Sel.
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A PERFECT CHURCH

via Co-Worker Tulsa, Okla.
I think that I shall never see
A church that's all it ought to be;
A church whose members never stray
Beyond the straight and narrow way.
A Church that has no empty pews,
Whose preacher never has the blues;
Where elders "eld" and deacons "deak"
And none is proud, and all are meek.
Where gossips never peddle lies,
Or make complaints, or criticize;
Whose members all are sweet and kind,
And to each other's faults are blind.
Such congregations there may be,
But none of them are known to me;
So let us work and pray and plan
To MAKE THIS church the BEST - CAN!

FOUND! A PREACHER TO SUIT ALL

After hundreds of fruitless searches, a model preacher has been found. It is guaranteed that he will please any church that desires to call him. He preaches exactly twenty minutes and then sits down. He will hold the audience in his condemnation of sin, but never hurts anyone's feelings. He works from 8 a. m. to 10 p. m. in every type of work from preaching in the pulpit to custodian services. He makes \$60 a week, wears good clothes, entertains the brethren often, buys books of all descriptions regularly, has a nice family, drives a good car, gives \$30 a week to the church and stands ready to contribute to every good work with which he is confronted.

He is twenty-six years old and has been preaching thirty years; tall, short, handsome heavy set; one brown eye, one blue eye, hair parted in the middle, left side dark and straight, right side brown and very wavy.

He has a burning desire to work with teenagers and spends all his time with older folks; smiles all the time with a straight face, because he has a good sense of humor that keeps him seriously dedicated to his work. He has a glowing personality, with deadened feelings and nerves of iron.

--Copied

* * * * *

A man went to see his doctor for advice about how to stop snoring. "Does your snoring disturb your wife?" asked the doctor.

"Disturb her! Why it disturbs the whole congregation."

--Selected.

BEING A CHRISTIAN

It is hard to be a Christian, but an average sinner has all the temptations, trials, anxieties, worries, torments and fears which a Christian has, and then a thousand times more which the Christian never has.

Then the Christian has an unlimited supply of light, knowledge, truth, sympathy, love and hope which the sinner has not.

Moreover, the Christian has a sure and certain hope of a resurrection, a happy issue out of all his trials and an endless life. While the sinner has only a dark, cheerless, hopeless, Godless future to anticipate.

Yes, it is hard to be a Christian; but it is a thousand times harder to be anything else.

Yes, it is hard to live a Christian life, for it requires a strength and faith and determination that most of us have to develop through the years of stumbling, faltering and blundering, till we at last reach the heights of faith and strength of love that will hold firm and secure unto the end.

But it is a thousand times harder to fall and lie in a mistake without trying to rise from a failure and press on once more to the ultimate destiny of all who love the Lord.

To live a Christless life, die a Christless death, be buried in a Christless tomb, and raised in a Christless resurrection to spend a Christless eternity, is far harder than to endure whatever suffering and persecution may come through victorious over evil in the end.

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord." (I Cor. 15:58)

--Selected

come and to undergo whatever hardship necessity may require to

(continued from page 3)

And when in the hospital he came to himself, the driver cried, "How doeth the others?"

And the doctor turned and spoke saying, "Two have given up the spirit, one may soon perish, and one will never walk again."

And the youth would fain have taken his own life in his great remorse. And he cried in great anguish, "I have sinned against heaven and before all and am no more worthy to be called a man."

Verily I say unto you, that even though he repented, the fruit of his recklessness permanently marred the lives of many. Fortunate is the one who profits by his experience.

—Ward Patterson

NEWS AND NOTES

An enjoyable time was had by everyone who attended Camp Indogan last Lord's day for the pot-luck. This afforded a good way for everyone to visit with the Hosse's and sister Hosse's parents, Brother and Sister Tarpley. We enjoyed their visit and look forward to brother Hosse holding a Gospel Meeting along about this time next year, Lord willing.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

Mishawaka, with Joe Hazelbaker preaching. Meeting starts Monday evening the 24th, 7:30 p.m.

Kendalville, with John Smith preaching. Meeting now in progress, to continue each night through next week, 7:30 p.m.

Waterloo, with Tarror Jener preaching. This meeting begins about the 14th of July. More exact dates will be given later.

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LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

June 23, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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A LIFE MAKES A PRETTY
WORTHLESS PACKAGE IF IT
IS ALL WRAPPED UP IN
ITSELF.

BIBLE ARITHMETIC

Heaven's arithmetic has some principles that seem paradoxical. One of them is contained in Christ's estimate of the widow's pennies. How can a copper cent be worth more than a gold eagle? His rule for getting rich is equally strange: "Sell and give, and thou shalt have treasure." Does it make the treasure less desirable that it is to be in heaven's bank? His get-rich-quick plan may seem strange, but it is practical. Getting comes of giving. We get mercy by showing mercy; we get forgiveness by forgiving, we get honor by yielding the place of honor to others; we become princes by making ourselves servants.

—Selected

TAUGHT TO TEACH

In Matt. 11:1 the writer says, "And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and preach in their cities".

It is noteworthy that our Lord was not exempt from the work of going. He did not feel that his responsibility had been discharged simply by teaching those who followed him. In fact, he was deeply concerned about those who knew him not and had not repented of their sins. If we had been there, we might have reasoned in our feeble way that the Master teacher should have reserved his presence and teaching to a selected few who in turn could do the footwork in taking the message to others. The Lord however was so deeply grieved over the untold multitude of impenitent sinners, he never ceased to carry the word directly to them even after much of his time was spent preparing his followers to do the same. His example of working outside the realm of his chosen few attested to the love for the lost and the joy that is in heaven when one sinner repents, even more so, than the ninety and nine that need no repentance. Our Lord constantly envisioned the vast number of lost as the fields that were white unto harvest and he himself was a part of the working force in reaping a harvest for God.

We have just concluded a wonderful Vacation Bible School and Gospel Meeting. Following our Lord's example we should now proceed to take the message which has been revived in us, to the lost of the world. Long since has been the time when the church felt that if the lost wanted the truth, they could come to where it was being proclaimed (I have heard more than one of our church leaders say this). Rather, if we would be a learner of Christ we will now depart "thence to teach and preach in their cities". We must stake the growth of the church here on our taking it to them, since

(cont.)

THE PARABLE OF THE KILLER

Hear then the parable of the killer: A certain man had a son. And the son said to his father, "Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me, that I may buy a 'rod' that will really 'scat'." And his father divided unto him a portion of his living.

And not many days after, the son gathered all his inheritance together, and took his journey to a car lot, and there bought a shiny 'heap' with a motor that was 'hot'.

And when he had spent all, there arose a great pride in his heart. And he spent his hours polishing and tuning until the time when he should show it to his friends with great rejoicing.

And it came to pass that he called together his friends, saying unto them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found me a 'rod' that will really 'drag'." And his friends joined themselves to him and the 'peeled out.'

And the tires spun, and the stones flew, and the motor roared, and the speedometer needle rose, and great was the rise of it. And the driver said within himself, "Man, thou has much skill laid up for many curves, take thy chances, dig, drag, and be daring."

And they thought within themselves, "This is smart! This gets attention." And the citizens of the country looked on in horror.

And it came to pass that a curve turned more quickly than expected. The car crossed the center line and struck another car headon, and great was the crash of it.

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we learned long ago that very few will come of their own accord.

A great opportunity now lies ahead for the church here. What will you do about it?

D. H.

(cont. from page 3)

4. Because some are attracted to the bizarre, the spectacular, or the unusual. For this reason, some people are attracted to the cults.

5. Because many have not accepted the authority of Christ. We must seek the authority of Christ, submit in obedience to his will. We must restore an ancient society--Christ's church (Matthew 28:19).

-Selected

NEWS AND NOTES

The meeting with brother Joe Hazelbaker at the Mishawaka congregation ends tonight. Brother Stanley Davis will be starting full time work with this congregation immediately. We wish them God's richest blessings as they work together.

Everyone is invited to a fellowship dinner next Saturday evening at 7:45 at the "Mr. Smorgasbord" restaurant in Mishawaka. One was held last month and was well attended.

Remember this Thursday is the 4th, and another get-together is planned at Camp Indogan. Lawn mowing and general clean-up work is also in the offing, to ready the camp for the first session which starts July 7. Gary MacDonald directs family camp beginning then.

We miss the Hostetler family from worship today. Also the Pieratts. I believe that these two families are planning on being together either today or tomorrow at the Pieratt home in Missouri. (DH)

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LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

June 30, 1968

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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LAZINESS

Are you an energetic soul
Who strives with vision t'wards a goal?
Or do you lie around and shirk
So others have to do your work?

Make no mistake, my lazy friend
A helping hand you must extend
While living here upon this sod
If you intend to live with God. . .

Don't make another bear your load
For you will reap as you have sowed;
A life of "ease" may seem quite swell
But there will be no "ease" in HELL.

G. MacDonald

Doing The Best You Can ?

The story is told of a young lad trying to overturn a rock nearly as big as he was. His father was looking on seeing the young lad tugging, sweating and heaving with all his might and getting nowhere. The boy, realizing his father was anxiously looking on said, "Daddy, I'm doing the best I can." To which the father replied, "No you're not son. I could help you if you'd only ask me."

How often do we as Christians set out to do a task without asking the aid of our Father in heaven. He has promised to give us a strength that we could not possibly attain by ourselves. Phil. 4:13. And this inner strength, which comes by seeking His aid can mean the difference between success and failure. Our knowledge of this reservoir of strength which is at our disposal and not using it, reflects on our discipleship and surely spurns the willing hand of God.

We simply are not doing the best that we can when God stands anxiously nearby desiring to help us and we don't call on him. Can we call ourselves Christians and not seek his aid? If so, it's a misnomer. Christianity means Christ working in us.

There are also other means of spiritual strength at our disposal. We are not doing the best that we can when we have the word of God to guide us and we don't study it, or when fellow christians are available to encourage us and we don't seek their encouragement, or when the church assembles for mutual edification and we don't attend. To bring out the best in us, the Lord has provided us with many avenues for spiritual growth, none of which is beyond our ability to use.

Having fortified ourselves with these advantages and especially the power that comes from the willing and able hand of God, only then can we reach a plateau of greater service and usefulness in the Lord's kingdom. Only then can we say, with some measure of truthfulness, "I'm doing the best I can!"

D. H.

WHY ARE THERE SO MANY DIFFERENT CHURCHES TODAY?

This a a natural question, growing out of the search on the part of our Western world for areas of agreement, the ardent longing for peace, and the realization that confusion and riction in religion do not have the sanction of God. It is inconceivable that men should be so divided when Christ died to reconcile our world "in one body by the cross"(Ephesians 2:16).

Several reasons may be given to explain the disparity in religious practice today among so many competing churches.

1. *Because men have introduced human innovations.* History gives us information concerning the approximate time when the religious movements began that led to the formation of present-day church-bodies. Both Catholicism and Protestantism have developed practices unknown to the New Testament.

2. *Because men stopped short in their search for truth.* Reformers such as Luther and Wesley and Zwingli led their followers into new understandings and insights. We honor their courage. *We ought not to stop short*, however, of Christ in our search for truth. He, alone, is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).

3. *Because men have made creeds out of their opinions.* Our search for truth cannot stop short of *all* truth which is centered in Christ and revealed in the New Testament. The doctrine of "hereditary total depravity," for instance, has been rejected by most Protestants and it has been completely disproved by educational findings. The fact that it remains in some church-creeds is evidence of the fact that men crystallized their opinions before they knew all the facts. Most creeds contain truths, but the Word of God is able to furnish the man of God "unto all good works."

(cont. on back page.)