

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This evening at 6 o'clock is our regular singing date at Mark's Nursing Home. However, this past week, the home has been closed down and the patients have been taken to the two other nursing homes in town, some to the National Home on town-line road and some to the Merry Manor Home on State Rd. #9. Permission has been given by the National Home administrator to sing there at the 6 o'clock time, so as usual, let's have a good turnout at the National Nursing Home located on Town Line Road and North Street.

Sister Goldie Pulley remains in Lagrange County Hospital but is somewhat improved in her condition. Visit her and cheer her up when you can. Sister Pearl Bozell is now in the Merry Manor Home recovering from her broken hip. She, too, appreciates the visits by the church.

The first session (Junior) of Camp Indogan begins today and we have several of our children here going. We wish for them an enjoyable and spiritually rich experience.

MEN - Area mens fellowship (women also invited, I notice on the announcement) July 16 at Gateway Plaza, Ft. Wayne.

Herald of Truth can be seen over channel 33, Ft. Wayne, at 9:30, each Sunday morning. Keep this in mind and tell your friends.

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

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

July 4, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:00 A. 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

A GOOD THOUGHT

If you think you are beaten, you are,
If you think you dare not, you don't

If you'd like to win, but think you can't
It's almost a cinch you won't

Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man;

But soon or late the man who wins
Is the one who thinks he can.

--Anonymous

Do you go to night church?

Recently a teacher of a Sunday morning Bible Class of small children urged them to come to the church services on Sunday night. One little girl answered by saying, "My Mommy and Daddy just won't go to NIGHT CHURCH." Many times the frankness of little children reveal embarrassing truths. I feel sure that this little girl correctly expressed the attitude of her parents when she said, "Mommy and Daddy just won't go to night church." This pictures the practice of entirely too many in the church today.

What do you think of those who "WON'T GO" to night services?

The first thing I want to say is that they are not like many of the characters of which we read in the Bible. Nicodemus went to Jesus at night and received the great lesson on the new birth. The Phillipian Jailer was converted at night (Acts 16:33) Peter was delivered from prison during the night (Acts 12:6-10). My "Day service only" brethren would have missed all of these blessings.

The second thing I want to say is that the "DAY SERVICE ONLY" brethren miss two-thirds of all the regular services of the church! You see they miss Sunday and midweek services and almost all of our gospel meetings. Could a student pass in school attending only one-third of the time? Is the church less important than these? I hope what I have said will seriously disturb those of you who refuse to go to "NIGHT CHURCH."

--Paul McClug
Via Glenwood Herald

* * * *

There is no moral value in sorrow. Sorrow is of value only when it works repentance--a change--in your heart and life.

Eternal Life Insurance

Home office is in Heaven. Branch offices are in Principal cities and Communities all over the world, known as "churches of Christ" (Rom. 16:16) This policy is given by all authority both in heaven and on earth (Matt. 28:18-20).

APPLICATION FOR POLICY

1. Must Believe in Christ. Acts 16:31-Rom. 5:1
 2. Must Repent of Sins. Acts 3:19 and 17:30.
 3. Must be Baptized for remission of sins. Mark 16:16
- When these conditions have been met, your policy is in force. Acts 2:47.

HOW TO PAY PREMIUMS

1. By Worship. Acts 2:42, 20:7 and Hebrews 10:25
2. By Service. Romans 12:11 and I cor. 15:58.
3. Being Faithful unto death. Rev. 2:10 and 22:14

SOME ESSENTIAL FACTS ABOUT THE COMPANY INVOLVED

1. Founded in Jerusalem by Christ. Matthew 16:16 and Isaiah 2:2.
2. Date founded is 33 A. D. Acts 2:1 & 16:47
3. The Rate-Book is the Bible. II Tim. 3:16-17.

P. S. This is the ONLY company that can insure : your soul against Eternal Death.

Via North Bay Bulletin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is to be an area wide singing this afternoon at 3 o'clock at the new Warsaw church building, Warsaw, Indiana.

The women are again invited to the area men's fellowship this Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Gateway Smorgasbord in Ft. Wayne.

The ladies are having a shower for Vicki Ross (for Jason Lee) this Tuesday evening at the building. Time 7:30. All women are invited.

Goldie Pulley and Bill Oakley have gone home from the hospital. We hope that both can be at services again real soon.

Occasionally we like to mention the "star camper" at Camp Indogan, and especially when one of our own wins it. This time Terry Hostetler won it and we congratulate him for this fine showing among all the junior age division at camp.

How do you like to new look around the outside of our building? Thanks to the many who gave their time yesterday to make the improvements.

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

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

July 11, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 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 man who wants to go to heaven should study carefully to see if he is taking the route that leads there. -Sel.
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IMPORTANCE OF MEDITATION FOR ETERNAL LIFE

The dinner dishes are finished, the children are asleep, your husband is away for the evening and you are alone or maybe the children are away at school and for the first time you are all alone in your home. In many ways you have been looking forward to this, but now you find yourself lonely. Perhaps you work in the business world and have few close family ties, when you come home in the evening you are all alone. Whatever your niche in life, do you dread these times of being alone, or do you look forward to them. The time spent in solitude does it leave you feeling depressed, or refreshed and enriched.

Our generation has so many activities pressing on us and we have never learned the real value of

CHRISTIANS
NEVER QUIT

Some Christians can be pushed, shoved and insulted in the ticket line at a ball game, ignored at the barber shop or beauty salon, or sleighted at the movie house, BUT THEY NEVER QUIT ATTENDING THESE PLACES! Yet! if they feel offended for any reason at church, they refuse to attend for weeks at a time, or sometimes quit for good. Rather strange and inconsistent, isn't it?

Being peeved at the brethren and forsaking the Lord is about as logical as being angry with the dog and kicking the cat.

A preacher once asked a certain man why he had just ceased to attend church. He replied, "They haven't treated me right over there." "Then why don't you go home and beat your wife?" asked the minister. The startled backslider gave the preacher a look which questioned his sanity. "My wife hasn't done anything against me," he said. "Well" said the preacher, "Has the Lord Jesus done anything against you?"

How utterly silly men become in trying to give an excuse for failure to support the cause of Christ. The truth is when you see a man or woman begin to stay away from church services because of something that has been said or done, there is something wrong with that person. Deep down in his heart he usually knows it, but simply hasn't the grace to confess it to God and make his life right with the Lord Jesus.

Let's be honest about it. If you have to quit, there's something wrong with you and your relationship to Christ. It is your soul that is being separated from Christ, and there SHOULD BE NOTHING ALLOWED TO COME BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR SAVIOR. Your commitment to Christ should be away above and beyond any treatment fellow humans are capable of rendering you.

DON'T KICK THE CAT! DON'T BEAT YOUR WIFE!
DON'T QUIT THE LORD! --Sel.

MEDITATION

(Continued from page one)

OF SOLITUDE. Because we have to be on the go constantly we never have really learned that being alone can be a most meaningful experience.

In PARADISE LOST, John Milton wrote, "Solitude sometimes is the best society." Henry David Thoreau wrote that he never found the companion that was so companionable as solitude. Christians especially need to claim the privileges and learn the values of quiet contemplation, which is possible only when we are alone.

We are impressed, when we read in Psalms, with the fact that David knew the value of solitude. "MY soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful lips; when I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches" (Psalms 63:5,6) Again he wrote "I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands" (Psalms 143:5)

Our Lord often slipped away from the crowd in order to spend quiet times in meditation and prayer. For example read Matthew 14:23. He also knew that the disciples needed quiet times; (Mark 6:31,32)

Christ spoke to the disciples of the ordeal ahead of Him in John 16:32. We are never really alone for God is always with us.

Only when we have excluded all of the secular elements of life can we really come to meditate upon the eternal values of the spiritual world. When we are alone can we really become mindful of our failures and mistakes and determine to live on a higher plane. In times of solitude we can make our best use of the word of God and of the privilege of prayer.

We might follow the example of one devout Christian woman who rises early in the morning before the rest of her household are awake, to meditate, to study and to plan her day. Long and private walks might rebuild our spiritual strength and recharge our spiritual batteries. Whatever the way, let us seek it for thus we prepare ourselves for eternal life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A gospel meeting is scheduled at Three Rivers this week (the exact dates are shown on the bulletin board) with brother Jerry Sullins from the new East Allen County Church , Ft. Wayne preaching.

The new address of the Perry Miller's is:

P.O.Box 156
Schoolcraft, Michigan 49087

Their phone number is: 6794868 . The Millers are now attending the Three Rivers congregation, so attending their meeting we will be able to see the Millers again.

Pauling, Ohio congregation invites us to a singing this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

At the area fellowship last Friday evening, there were several announcements concerning meetings in the near future. As these dates near, we will put them in the bulletin. One which we might be particularly interested in is one at Angola on August 22 (beginning) with Martel Pace preaching. A canvass is planned for the Saturday before and brother Stan Day would like several from Lagrange to help out in this canvass if possible.

We always appreciate the visitors who attend the services and invite you back whenever you can attend.

Earl Gieseke
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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

July 18, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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I N V E S T M E N T S

The most successful business men are those who are most careful in making investments. Investigation precedes decision. Are those backing a given enterprise reliable? Have others profited by a connection with this business? What is the cost? What are the possibilities of failure? What will accrue in the nature of dividends? All of these matters are up for consideration when wise men invest time, talent or money.

Successful Christians are those who have applied these tests to the business of the Lord and His Church, and have invested heavily. Finding that Jesus invested His life to establish Christianity among men, that He is alive again at the right hand of God exalted, that the

only possibility of failure lies in the investor or within ones self, that the cost, although involving a great deal, is insignificant when compared to the rewards, and that the benefits begin in this life and last through eternity: the thoughtful person decides to invest His all.

In all cases where there is honesty an investor receives a return in proportion to the amount invested. "Your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:58. We are rewarded in this life in proportion to the time, talent, energy, service, worship and sacrifice we give or make for the cause of Christ. If one attends only the Lord's day morning service, and can miss that without regret; if he takes no public part in worship, and yet criticizes those who do; if his contribution is small, and given grudgingly; if he makes no effort to send the Gospel to others; if he makes no effort to teach his neighbor or friend; and if he doesn't study the Bible, and pray daily--it is no wonder he isn't getting much satisfaction out of the business of Christianity; he isn't putting anything into it. Those who invest heavily will "receive an hundred fold in this life, with persecutions, and in the world to come eternal life." "But he shall receive an hundred fold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life." Mark 10:30.

- --Selected

W H Y ? ?

Why should we give money to save the heathen abroad when there are heathen in our own country to save? There are other "whys" equally as logical. Why should I give money to those in other parts of this country when there are needy ones in my own state? Why should I give for those in other parts of the state when there are needy ones in my own town? Why should I give to the church when my own family wants it? Why should I give my family what I want myself? Why? I am a Christian, NOT A HEATHEN! --Sel.

WHY MEN FAIL

There is a cause for everything. Nothing ever "Just Happens." If a man is promoted to a better job, there is a reason. If a man loses his job, there is a cause.

There are many causes that lead to failure. Here is a list of the most common ones, as assigned by a noted psychologist. Look them over; if none of them apply to you, then you are to be congratulated, for you are a success:

-Finding fault with the other fellow, but never seeing our own.

-Doing as little as possible, and trying to get as much as possible for it.

-Spending much time showing up the other fellow's weak points, and too little time correcting your own.

-Slandering those we do not like.

-Procrastination - putting off until tomorrow something that we should have done day before yesterday.

-Deceit - talking friendly to the other fellow's face and stabbing him in the back as soon as he turns around.

-False belief that we are smart enough to reap a harvest of pay before sowing a crop of honest service.

-Disloyalty to those who have trusted us.

-Egotism - the belief that we know it all, and ^{no}one can tell us anything.

-Last, but not least, lack of necessary training and education to enable us to stand at the head in our line of work.

--Selected

A R T

A man who works with his hands is a laborer; a man who works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman, but a man who works with his hands and his brain and his heart is an artist. --Sel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Last Sunday evening after regular services Loretta Marchand was baptized and thus added to body of saints here at Lagrange. We want all to meet her and help her in the Christian walk any way that we can. Annie Oakley had a great part in her conversion. We commend the many here who have had a part in the many conversions in the past few months. Let's keep it up. Everyone needs what we have to give.

Several who have been in the hospital were with us again at services last Sunday. Sister Pearl Bozell remains in the Merry Manor Nursing Home and would appreciate the visits of brethren.

Some reshuffling of classes has been thought best to give the larger classes use of the larger rooms. Hope that it works out better.

A grouping of the congregation into three groups (or zones) for the purpose of assuming more responsibility in visitation follow-up has been talked about. We need a better system in doing this than what we have been doing and perhaps this will organize the work better. More on this later.

Remember- Tent meeting at Angola starting Aug. 22 with Martel Pace. Canvass scheduled Aug. 21.

Earl Gieseke
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Lagrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

July 25, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M. :

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LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

"Do What you can today,
you may not be here
tomorrow."

--Sel.

YOUR CHURCH AND MINE

As I read the Sunday paper
I ran across this line:
"Today you go to your church
And I will go to mine."
I've read the Bible o're and o're
and never found that line
"Today you go to your church
And I will go to mine."
"Uph^o this rock I'll build my church"
^ The Saviour said one day.
And before the dear Lord died
He humbly knelt to pray.
"May they be one as we are one.
And who believe on me,
So that the world may surely know
I'm loved and sent by Thee".
"Yes, you may go to your church.
But let me tell you this:
Your worship will be void and vain
unless you go to His!"

--Sel.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE TRANSPORTATION

WANTED: BUSY PEOPLE

In the window of a grocery store was a sign: WANTED -- A DELIVERY BOY. The first applicant was a strong looking lad who inquired about the wages, hours, vacation . . . and then asked, "Do you provide a bicycle?" "No", replied the grocer. "Well," said the boy, "I'm not going to carry heavy groceries all over town. I don't want the job unless you provide a bicycle."

Later, a scrubbed-clean teenager walked in and asked for the job. He needed the work to help support his widowed mother, he explained. The grocer asked, "Don't you want to know about the wages, hours and vacation?" "No," replied the boy, "I just want the job." "But," questioned the grocer, "don't you want to know if we provide a delivery bicycle?" "No," said the boy, "I'll deliver them on foot if necessary. Please, may I have the job."

Then the grocer told him about the boy who demanded a bicycle. "You see," he explained, "we don't have a bicycle, because we PROVIDE A NEW STATION WAGON FOR MAKING DELIVERIES."

"Now to him who . . . is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think . . . be glory" (Ephesians 3:20)

Consider the moral. We ask God for a bicycle when He has a "new car" for us. Commit yourself to His work, but leave the transportation to Him.

Think of the men who have been supreme in imagination . . . the positive thinkers . . . the men of the church who think big. We take shots at them as preachers. "Impractical and unrealistic men", we say. But Paul looks at them and says, Boys you've been far outdistanced by the Lord. He is able to do far more than you can ask or think." We ask for a cupful, and the ocean remains. The ability of God towers above our wildest thoughts, reaching away into "the mists of the immeasurable."

Think big! Plan big! It will still be small compared with God's ability to give and perform.

If you want a job done well, get a busy person to do it. Indolent, idle people never have time. Just as this principle is true in the business world, it is also true in the work of the Lord. God has always called busy people into his service. Peter and Andrew were casting a net into the sea when Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matt. 4:19) Likewise James and John were busy fishermen, mending their nets when the Lord called them. Matthew, a tax collector, was at his post of duty when summoned to follow the Lord and Saul was intensely busy persecuting the church.

When we go to the Old Testament, we find the same thing is true. Moses was called from tending Jethro's flocks to become leader of the Israelites. Elisha was busy plowing when summoned to the office of the prophet. David was brought from the fields and flocks to be anointed king over God's people. Amos was working as a herdsman and a gatherer of sycomore fruit when divinely appointed to prophesy unto Israel.

When God wished to announce the birth of his Son, he chose to release the news to the shepherds busily engaged watching over their flocks by night. The Scriptures abound with illustrations of the same fact. God uses busy people to accomplish his purpose.

In this twentieth century age in which we have more and more leisure time, let us be busy serving God and man, using every opportunity to do good. As the inspired apostle exhorted, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." (I Cor. 15:58.) --Sel.

(Cont. from page 2)

Commitment is the key . . . do you really want the job? Take hold of the task and God will provide the transportation! Joe R. Barnett

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is to be a four-day gospel meeting this week (today through Wednesday evening) at Garrett. The speaker is Paul Galyan, preacher for the North Central congregation in Indianapolis, Ind. Time is 7:30 ea. Eve. except the 6 o'clock time scheduled for Sunday evening. Garrett would appreciate our attendance and we all would profit from going, if we have the evenings free.

This evening at 6 o'clock we are to meet at the National Nursing Home for singing. Plan to be there and help lift the spirits of these people.

Last Thursday evening we heard an inspiring talk by brother Gary Johnson on plans for he and his family to go to Angola, Africa (Lisbon, Portugal for one year and Angola the three remaining years of their four-year stay). His remaining need was for travel funds (he is being supported by both the Adrian and Niles, Michigan congregations). A meeting followed his talk in which the brethren here agreed to help them with a contribution of \$320.00. This amount along with individual contributions helped them greatly, and he felt so appreciative of the fellowship with them in this work. This congregation is to be commended for its interest.

Brother Earl Gieseke again asks: All who have any of his books, please return them. He'll let you have them again but at least he'll know where they are. Now, he's not sure who has what!

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

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

August 1, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
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It is a sad religion that
is never strong except
when the owner is sick.
--Sel.

ALL VOLUNTEERS

Once, when five volunteers were needed to undertake a dangerous mission, an officer lined up his men and asked that all those willing to volunteer take one step forward. During the process he turned his back. When he re-faced his men, the line was intact. As he expressed his disappointment that not a single man was brave enough to volunteer for the task, a corporal interrupted him, saying, "We all stepped forward, sir."

Think what it would mean to the church if this were the attitude of our people. In spite of all the good that is being done in congregations throughout the brotherhood, we know that it is still being done by a very small percentage of those who are members. Perhaps, that is why Jesus said, "Many are called but few are chosen." Too many people choose just to be counted as a member of the church (cont. on page 2)

DO YOU ACT - OR REACT?

I walked with my friend . . . to the newstand the other night and he bought a paper, thanking the newsie politely; The newsie did not even acknowledge it.

"A sullen fellow, isn't he?" I commented.

"Oh, he's that way every night," shrugged my friend. "Then why do you continue to be so polite to him? I asked.

Why not? inquired my friend. "Why shoul I let him d decide how I am going to act?"

As I thought about this incident later, it ocured to me that the important word was "act".

My friend ACTS toward people; most of us REACT toward them.

He has a sense of inner balance which is lacking in most of us; he knows who he is, what he stands for, and how he should behave. He refused to incivility for incivility, because then he would no longer be in command of his own conduct.

When we are enjoined in the Bible to return good for evil, we look upon this as a moral injunction - wh which it is. But it is also a psychological prescription for our emotional health. Nobody is unhappier than the perpetual reactor. His center of emotional gravity is not rooted within himself, where it belongs, but in the world outside social climate around him, and he is a mere creature at the mercy of these elements.

Praise gives him a feeling of falseness because it does not last and does not come from self approval. Criticism depresses him more than it should, because it confirms his own secretly shaky opinion of himself. Snubs hurt him, and the merest suspicion of unpopularity in any quarter rouses him to bitterness.

Serenity of spirit cannot be achieved until we become the masters of our own actions and attitudes. To let another determine whether we shall be rude or gracious, elated or depressed, is to relinquish control over our own personalities, which is ultimately all we possess. The only true possession is self-possession.

--Selected

--The Co-Worker

THE PURCHASE PRICE

How much did you pay for your money?

And what was the price of your wealth?

As you gathered the dross, did your soul suffer loss?

Have you squandered your honor or health?

If you've trod on the rights of another,

If of blight on your soul there's a touch,

If your brother took wrong as you hurried along,

Then your money has cost you too much.

Lad! What was the price of your pleasure?

What goods have you bartered for fun?

What sadness and woe did your conduct bestow

Ere the night of your revel was done?

If your joy has brought pain to another,

If your fun cost a heartache or tear,

If you've lost self-control, if it stunted your soul,

Then your pleasure has cost you too dear.

What trade did you make for high honors?

How high have you bid for applause?

Did the bargain bring shame to another's fair name?

Be fair in your answer because

Your renown, friend, has cost you too dearly

If installments are paid on this plan;

And your vision, alas, as you look in the glass,

Meets an image that's less than a man.

You cannot do wrong and forget it.

In the judgement you've never a pull!

For the wages of sin, when once you begin,

Must be ledgered, and settled in Full. --Sel.

(Continued from page 1) but do not want to be counted as a worker in the church. For that reason someone else must carry the load that they should carry.

But suppose all of our people should step forward at once. The story would be much different. It is our hope and prayer that some day all of our people will desire to be really loyal and work as the Master has commanded. ". . . always abounding in the work of the Lord." Have you stepped forward for the Lord?--Sel.

(Continued from front page)

Notice that they were told to do something.

"DO" is a verb denoting action. There must be some action on the part of man if he is to be saved. God gives the commands, man must do--must OBEY! (Heb. 5:8-9; Rev. 22:14; James 1:22; I John 2:17).

---Selected

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Sunday, LaGrange will host the area singing. Time is at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. There should be several congregations represented from surrounding areas. Come and enjoy their fellowship.

Gospel meeting at Angola starts Aug. 22. Canvass of town to be Aug. 21st. They ask our help.

Address of Phil Brust is:

RR#3

Sullivan, Indiana 47882

We'll miss them here and pray that they may continue in faithfulness to the Lord where they are.

Ladies tray favor session Wednesday afternoon at 1 O'clock at the church building. The ladies Bible Study meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 at the church building. Ladies are urged to come.

Judy Crubaugh was immersed into Christ last Sunday morning. Let's encourage her young life in the ways of God.

Personal Work training class at 6 this evening.

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

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

August 7, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
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Envy can never take root in a heart that is filled with love for God and humanity.

A BIBLE QUESTION

Does man have to do anything in order to be saved? Some men say "YES". Some men say "NO" Which one do you believe? Christ says: "Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them" is like a wise man, but "whosoever heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them not" is like a foolish man. (Matt. 7:25-27)

Some men asked the inspired apostle Peter this question: "What shall we do?" Did Peter say to them, "Now, men, don't get excited! There is nothing you need to do; there is nothing you can do; you just wait for God to send converting power!"? Every Bible reader knows this was not the answer that Peter gave to them. Let us now read the answer as recorded in Acts 2:38: "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (page 4)

*1-16 DKV
2-16 DKV*

"THE MEMBERS ARE NOT FRIENDLY"

In two visits made within one hour, one lady said that _____ church was cold and distant and that it was impossible to make any friends there. In the other home, the lady said, "I have been here only a few days and people . . . are good to me. I never saw a church so friendly as this one." All of this reminds me of a story: One time a man moved west with his family. They paused on the prairie for a drink of water at the home of a homesteader. The man asked, "What kind of people live in the community ahead where I'm going?" The homesteader replied, "What kind of people were there where you came from?" "The finest in the world." replied the traveler. "Then that's the kind you'll find on ahead, mister." After his departure, another family came to the well. "We are going to settle in the next valley," said the newcomer. "What kind of people live there?" The homesteader replied, "What kind of people were there where you came from?" "The meanest, coldest, most selfish I have ever seen. We lived there for years and never did get acquainted." "Then you had better turn around and go somewhere else, for that's the kind of people you'll find ahead, mister." said the man at the well. --Sel.

The above is an old, old story, but it is timely a hundred years later. Some complain about how cold the members are, and others talk about how friendly they are. Why the difference? Why does the same congregation sometimes seem cold to one person and friendly to another person? People who do not have friends are, as a rule, unfriendly themselves. "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly." (Prov. 18:24) However such persons are not able to see it. They suppose the fault lies on the other side of the fence. People usually react according to your actions, attitude or disposition. If you want people to be friendly, then speak to them--be friendly! Don't stand back and act like you are afraid, or be first out of the building and then say, "They are the coldest people I have ever seen." --Kissirmee Bulletin

A SONGFUL RELIGION

Christianity is the only religion that abounds in song. Atheism is songless; agnosticism has nothing to sing about; the various forms of idolatry are not tuneful; but Judaism said: "O come, let us sing unto the Lord." When Christ came, the angels greeted his birth with praise, and since then Christian song has gained in fullness and strength of voice with each century. The human voice is the instrument of praise. (Hebrews 13:15; Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19). Mechanical instrumental music was never used in praising God in New Testament worship. Its use is an addition to God's pattern of worship for Christians worship. We must not use it in worship of God lest we add to His word of truth. (Rev. 22:18,19).

THE BIBLE

This book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrine is holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it and practice it to be saved. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good is its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened in the judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its holy contents.

--UNKNOWN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This afternoon at 3 o'clock we urge everyone to be present for the singing. It is Lagrange's time to host this, among the several congregations who participate in it, and we should have several here from other congregations. Let's join with them in singing praises to God.

A gospel meeting is scheduled at Huntington this week with brother Floyd Denton of Paulding, Ohio speaking. The meeting is at 7:30 each evening through Next Sat, then regular services Sunday.

Brother Stanley Day of Angola has ask as many as can arrange it to come to Angola next Saturday to help canvas the town in preparation for the gospel meeting which starts next Sunday. Then, all the support for the meeting that we can give would be very much appreciated. Brother Martel Face (Jerry Face's brother) will be preaching. More details on this will be given later.

Mrs. Beulah Gray (Sharon Pieratt's mother) was baptized into Christ last Tuesday. Let's encourage this sister in the Lord's work. There is so much to be done and so few to do it, we should show her the way.

Earl Gieseke
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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

August 15, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening worship services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister.
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Telephone No. 463-3571

The road to heaven doesn't
change for you because
your neighbor strays
from it.

--Sel.

ATTITUDE

The manner in which we approach life can be summed up in one word: "Attitude." Some we refer to as having a "good attitude while others have a bad attitude".

Attitude plays an important part in our relationship to God, too. As an example, contrast the attitudes of Saul and David.

Both men were Kings of Israel, both were chosen of God for this position, both had humble beginnings. But Saul's attitude changed over the years. He became haughty and arrogant. Consequently, he lost his throne. David, too, disobeyed God, but he had a contrite heart and pleaded for mercy. He suffered punishment but still maintained a right relationship with God.

Saul and David . . . a study in the difference brought about by "Attitude!"

--Sel.

PRAYER

Prayer is the very breath of a Christian but we sometimes do not understand prayer.

1. Prayer is not a means of informing God and scolding men. God knows all we know and then some. We should not be scolding men while we pretend to be talking to God.

2. Prayer is not a means of ministering to our selfishness. "Ye receive not because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." (James 4:3.) It is very difficult to separate our selfishness from our requests, yet a selfish prayer will not be answered.

3. Prayer is not a means of getting out of doing what God requires of us. Prayer will not set aside God's laws. His laws are immutable and he requires obedience. "Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46).

But the prayers of Christians are answered. It may not be in the way we feel they should be, but they are answered.

"He asked for strength that he might achieve; he was made weak that he might obey.

"He asked for health that he might do greater things; he was given infirmity that he might do better things.

"He asked for riches that he might be happy; he was given poverty that he might be wise.

"He asked for power that he might have the praise of men; he was given weakness that he might feel the need of God.

He asked for all things that he might enjoy life; he was given life that he might enjoy all things.

"He received nothing he asked for but all things he hoped for. His prayer was answered."

-----Selected

* * *

"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Matt. 16:26).

WONDER IF . . .

People sometimes wonder if the time taken in Bible classes will pay off. Parents wonder if home Bible study is really necessary. Children and young people wonder why they should attend Bible classes. I believe that most of these questions can be answered in the following excerpt from an unknown source.

Max Jukes lived in the State of New York. He did not believe in Christian training. He married a girl of like character. From this union they have 1,206 descendants. Three hundred of them died prematurely. One hundred were sent to the penitentiary for an average of 13 years each. One hundred and ninety were public prostitutes. There were 100 drunkards, and the family cost the State \$1,200,000. They made no contribution to society."

But

Jonathan Edwards lived in the same State. He believed in Christian training. He married a girl of like character. From this union they have 729 descendants. Out of this family have come 300 preachers, 65 college professors, 13 university presidents, 60 authors of good books, three United States congressmen and outside of Aaron Burr, a grandson of Edwards, who married a questionable character, the family has not cost the state a single dollar. THE DIFFERENCE IN THE TWO FAMILIES: "CHRISTIAN TRAINING IN YOUTH."

Yes, Christian training is important. Christian education in a family DOES make a difference. Youth can be won to Christ at an early age, if the home and church will work together in this vital teaching ministry.

Parents, support the Bible school. The BEST FRIEND YOU HAVE IN THE WORLD IS YOUR CHILD'S BIBLE SCHOOL TEACHER

--Selected

--Jim Bevis-Kissimmee
Friendly Messenger

* * *

The Christian who will not carry a cross cannot wear a crown.

Don't count the days--make the days count!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following the Bible study last Thursday evening Marsha Richards expressed her desire to obey the Lord. Several returned to the building and witnessed her confession and baptism. We congratulate this fine young lady for her decision. She has been visiting the Ellers for several weeks this summer and will be returning to West Manchester, Ohio this week. Pray for her safety and usefulness in the years to come in the Lord's work.

The Angola gospel meeting begins today and continues through Sat. evening. Time, 7:30 ea. evening. Many from Lagrange went to Angola yesterday to help out in the canvass and several have expressed the desire to attend several nights. The interest is good, and I'm sure the Lord will bless this effort to establish the church of our Lord in the Angola area. Brother Martel Pace, Jerry's brother, will be the speaker. How many would be interested in going en masse: this Thursday evening, dismissing our services here?

The Ladies Bible class will not meet this Tuesday evening, according to sister Hostetler.

The Ladies Fellowship to be held at Lagrange has been worked out to this extent - Sister Rachel Howard (author of the book "In The Hands Of A Woman", which was used in the Ladies Bible Class) of Anderson, Ind. will be the guest speaker, and the date is set for Sat., Sept. 25. Other details will be worked out later.

Next week --- An article by brother Jerry Pace on our personal work program. Get behind it!

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

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

August 22, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
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LaGrange, Indiana 46761
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YOUNG PEOPLE, WE'RE PROUD OF YOU

You didn't bring the evils of the modern world. You found them full-grown and thriving when you came. Sometimes their unwholesome work has had its effect on you, but more often you have stood tall and straight and refused to be pulled down. We older Christians are proud of you, because, as we look at you and pray for you, we often see evidence that you are "made in the image of God".

"And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." Luke 2:52

ARE YOU MATURE?

Many ways have been suggested for determining whether or not a person has reached maturity in the cause of Christ but here is one of the simplest tests that I believe can be taken.

1. A mature person is one who is big enough to attend services of the church without being begged or bribed to do it. Children must be awakened each morning, encouraged to prepare for school, taken to the building etc. As long as a member must have others who are continually getting after him to be at services, he is yet most immature.

2. A mature person is one old enough to let the Lord tell him what to do and to be found doing it. He's not concerned about the praise and flattery of men. He is the one who is a careful student of the Bible, not to find in it what will prove his point, but to find in it what will prove him acceptable.

3. A mature person is one who is aware that his presence in Bible study and worship is not a great favor that he is doing for God. Being full grown, he senses his own worthlessness at being in God's company and does not desire to miss the opportunity.

4. A mature person is one who knows that everything about Christianity is good, but everyone's attitude may not be. Full growth makes the child of God acknowledge that Christianity is not popular with worldly crowds.

5. A mature person is able to forgive with retaliation.

--Brookston, Indiana
Bulletin

HOW TO SEARCH THE SCRIPTURE

S - eriously (Acts 17:11; II Timothy 2:15)
E - arnestly (Joshua 1:8; Psalms 119:11)
A - nxiously (John 20:31; Psalms 119:9)
R - egularly (Acts 17:11; Psalms 1:2)
C - arefully (Luke 24:27; II Timothy 3:16,17)
H - umbly (Luke 24:45; James 1:22)

"EVEN SO LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"

A chaplain on a battlefield came to a man who was lying wounded on the ground. "Would you like me to read you something from this book, the Bible?" he asked the wounded soldier. "I'm so thirsty," replied the man. "I would rather have a drink of water." As quickly as he could, the chaplain brought the water. The soldier asked, "Could you put something under my head?" The chaplain took off this light overcoat, rolled it, and placed it gently under the soldier's head for a pillow.

"Now," said the soldier, "if I had something over me. . . I'm very cold." There was only one thing that the chaplain could do. He took off his own coat and spread it over the soldier. The wounded soldier looked up into the face of the chaplain and added feebly, "If there is anything in that book in your hand that makes a man do for another what you have done for me, please read it to me."

--Rochester Bulletin

THIS LIFE OF OURS

It is a strenuous age in which we live; everyone tries to get ahead faster than the other fellow. Ideals are forgotten in the mad rush for supremacy. Brotherly love is something that seems to make a good subject for essays, but that is about all. Charity has been commercialized until all the sweetness has been squeezed out of it.

It seems that the greatest need of the world today is more old-fashioned character and kindness; a slowing up of the rush; long enough for some of us to realize that the best thing we can contribute to our times is tolerance and love. The surest method of receiving consideration is to give it. It is much more pleasant to slap a fellow on the back than to punch him in the jaw.

It is a steep grade, this thing called life, and we should welcome every opportunity to give our comrades a lift when they need it.

--Sel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The church here is to be commended for the way in which they supported by their attendance the Angola meeting this past week. There was an average attendance of approximately 100 each night. The lessons were challenging and especially the last one which was directed primarily to the church. Brother Paco pictured the church today as being in the favored position of holding the simple teaching of God's word, and the restoration of New Testament Christianity in a religiously confused world, and that such "narrow" teaching is what is needed the most. We have what the world needs, let's keep active in teaching them. Ultimately, every person will rascal with the question, "What must I do to be saved?". Amidst all the unscriptural teaching regarding this question, we should be constant in sounding out the truth. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me". Are you Living the way Christ has shown?

The Ladies Bible Class will again meet this Tuesday evening at 7:30 at the church building. More planning needs to be done for the Fellowship for Sept. 25, scheduled to be held here, and we urge all the ladies to attend the classes and help out in these decisions.

A family day of fellowship at the camp is scheduled for Labor Day, Sept. 6. Enjoy the last summers holiday with Christians in the Tri-State area, and attend. It is to be pot-luck.

Earl Gieseke
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LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

August 29, 1971

SCHEDULE OF REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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AN UNEXPECTED REWARD

"I recall that when I was a small boy, my mother gave me a bouquet of lillies of the valley and directed me to take them down the street to a neighbor who was ill. When I returned, she said: "Smell your hands." I sniffed, and to my childish delight I found that my hands still bore the delicate odor of the lillies of the valley. Then my mother said: "Flowers always leave some to their fragrance on the hands of the giver." --Sel.

THINK! Sometimes folks think that they do not need God. But if this is so, they should quit breathing His air, drinking His water, plowing His ground, eating His bread, warming by His sunshine, and cooling by His breeze. --Selected

THE ROCK

Immovable, unshaken and indestructible, it stands the Eternal word of God which shall never fail. "The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word by which the gospel is preached unto you." I Peter 1:24,25; the earth may be removed and the heavens rolled up as a scroll, yet it shall stand.

With feet planted on this firm foundation, we face the future with hope and assurance. We lift our eyes to the hills for strength and the rays of the celestial sun, lights our pathway to the beautiful City of God. --Selected

Faith in God

There are some people who spend much time discussing whether or not they can believe in God: but if they would reverse the question and ask whether or not they are the kind of people in whom God can believe, it would help them in getting a grip on him. When a person is so faithful to his own judgment and highest ideals that God can trust him, when he comes to realize that a divine eye is watching over him, it is then that there comes surging through him a strength which serves to make him courageous.

--Selected

* * * *

THINK ON THIS

"What's your business?" asked the shop-keeper.

"I came to speak to you about your soul, but I see you are busy," said the personal worker.

The personal worker put out his hand to say "Good-bye" and drawing closer to the astonished man, "Suppose I had been death?"

WE MUST OBEY THE LAW

In many areas of life today it seems to be "in" to disrespect the standards of decency, to trample underfoot God's law of marriage, and to flunt the laws of the land as something to be scoffed at and disobeyed.

"But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for the sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, for whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for men-stealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine." (I Timothy 1:8-10). (The divine law of God is meant here. Paul teaches that the law did not lie against a righteous man but against the wicked. But the principle applies to the laws of our land as well.)

Our society should fully recognize two things: first, that such opponents of law and order are going to be, and second, that they are the enemies of our country, of our homes and of the Lord's Church.

Laws are essential to any civilized society. Appearing at all points of thought and action, laws spring up in our nation to help us hold what justice and progress we may have attained.

These laws of our country, duly enacted by representatives elected by the majority of our people, must be respected by militant demonstrators to whom nothing is holy or sacred. We cannot have a government of the people by anarchy, by a minority composed of any segment of society, whether that minority be made up of political, social, racial, educational or financial soreheads and radicals, or any combination of such.

--Gayle Oler.

(Christians will obey all laws of the land and be models in such action. Read Romans 13:1-9; Titus 3:1; I Peter 2:13.--)

--Kissimmee Bulletin

We plead for abundance; God gives us talents.
--Selected.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are several scheduled events coming up for the month of September, some of which would be of interest to the church here: 1. A gospel meeting at Paulding, Ohio, the 7th through the 12th, 7:30 ea. evening. The local preacher will be speaking for the series, Floyd Denton. 2. Area singing next Sunday at Waterloo at 3 p.m. 3. Area Mens Fellowship the 17th in Ft. Wayne. Place of meeting will be given later. 4. The 25th, the Ladies Fellowship is to be held here. Sister Rachel Howard from Anderson, Ind. will be the guest speaker.

We learned this week that a sister Beth Woods is in the Miller Nursing Home. Also her daughter Kate Woods is also there. We should call on these two ladies and make their acquaintance.

A request came for the church here to allow brother Fruit Adair, a missionary from India (we have been supporting the India work) to speak to us on Thursday eve. the 16th of Sept, regarding the particular needs there. If there is basic objection to his coming, we should let So. Side congregation in Ft. Wayne know, as they are making the speaking schedule.

Sister Hoggatt expresses her thanks for the many thoughts of kindness from the church here since her operation. She is gradually improving and hopes to be home again within another week.

REMEMBER * Camp Indogan, Labor Day, is the place to be. Fun, Fellowship & Food(maybe some work)

Earl Gieseke
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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

September 5, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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

A problem not worth
praying about is not
worth worrying about!

DON'T STAY AWAY FROM CHURCH BECAUSE -

1. You are poor. (There is no admission charge.)
2. It rains. (You go to work in the rain.)
3. It is hot. (It's hot at your house, too.)
4. It is cold. (It's always warm and friendly here!)
5. No one invited you. (People go to other places without an invitation.)
6. You have small children. (What if you didn't?)
7. You don't like the preacher. (He's human, too)
8. There are hypocrites. (You associate with them every day and should be accustomed to them by now.)
9. You have company. (They will admire your loyalty if you invite them along. If they do not respect you enough to come with you, leave them at home until you return.)
10. Clothing not expensive. (We don't conduct fashion shows)
11. You have plenty of time yet. (Are you sure?)

I' a personal worker
I work for the Lord.
The Bible - my shield
Faith - my sword

I want to talk on religion
On religion, I say
And how are your standings
With Jesus Christ today?

Have you been loyal?
Tell me, please do.
Have you given for Christ -
What He's given for you?

You know it takes more
Than just believing -
Anyone can say that.
The word is very deceiving.

We must teach others
Afar or at home -
For we are not saved
By our faith alone!!

We must help others
Teach them to learn
For it would be sad
If they had to burn.

A very good Christian
I claim not to be -
But I'm still trying
This you must SEE.

We're all gonna slip
Once in a while
But we have to keep trying
To walk the long mile.

We must keep trying
This we must do
And God's love and forgiveness
Is bound to come through

You say You, are old
That now it's too late
That you've wasted your life
But my friend -- WAIT!!

It's never too early
Nor never too late
To be rid of sin
To start a clesn slate

Here are deeds you must do
In order, they be
These are important
If you want to be FREE!!

First - Be Baptized
For the remission of sin
In the presence of God
And His children (witnesses)

Second-- Keeping Faith
Is what you must do
Read often the Bible
Its' words are true.

Third - You must teach
The gospel to others
Bringing the Truth
To Your Sisters and Brothers.

The Churches I recommen^d
That are honest soul-reaching
for sincere worship'
And true Bible teaching

Are Churches I recommend
To anyone twice
These Churches Are;
The Church of God
or The Church of Christ.

My message is sincere
My motives are true
Give all to God
For HE's given to You!!

Written By Bill Oakley
Church of Christ-LaGrange

* * * * *

PRAYER

Many of us lose confidence in prayer;
because we do not recognize the answer.

We ask for strength; God gives us difficulties
through which to make us strong.

We pray for wisdom; God sends us problems to
solve.

We plead for prosperity; God gives us brain
and brawn with which to work and think.

We ask for courage; God gives us dangers to
overcome.

We pray for favors; God gives us opportunities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This afternoon at 3 o'clock is the area-wide singing at Waterloo. All are invited.

The area men's fellowship is to be held this Friday evening. We do not have the particulars but hope to by this Thursday evening for the ones who are planning to go.

This Thursday evening Brother Truitt Adair (missionary to India) will be speaking on the work being done in India. Come and encourage this man in this very fruitful country (probably more Christians per dollar spent than anywhere else in the world)

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Mrs. Howard, who was scheduled to be the speaker for the Ladies Fellowship on the 25th, will not be coming. Another lady in the Rochester, Michigan area, Mrs. Rosemary Montgomery will come instead. She comes highly recommended and should be a great inspiration for everyone attending.

Sister Sandy Brovont is in room 113 at the LaGrange hospital. She would appreciate your prayers, visits and encouragement. Sister Thelma Hoggatt has returned from the hospital and is doing well at home.

Be sure to attend personal work class this evening at 6 o'clock.

Earl Gieseke
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LaGrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

September 12, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
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Faith is the key that unlocks the cabinet of promises and empties out their treasures into the soul.

GRATITUDE

Gratitude is called a "double-barreled blessing". It blesses the one who gives as well as the one who receives. A very poor and aged man, busy planting and grafting apple trees, was interrupted by this question: "Why do you plant trees; for you cannot hope to eat the fruit of them?" The man replied, "Someone planted trees for me before I was born. I have eaten the fruit. I now plant for others a memorial of my gratitude."

There is an ingredient in gratitude that works wonders. Try it! Count your blessings. Begin with being grateful for health. . a sound mind. . ability to work. . friends. . food. . shelter. . happiness at home. . transportation. . medical care. It is a simple procedure, but to count our blessings helps us to overcome our complaints. (cont. on page 3)

HOW FAR CAN WE KNOW THE HISTORIC JESUS . .

The question, "How far can we know the historic Jesus?" is easy: We can know all that the records say about Him, or we can know nothing about Him. There is only one source of our knowledge of Jesus: the Bible. If the writers of the four Gospels are to be relied upon, all they said about Him can be confidently accepted. If they cannot be relied upon, then nothing definitely can be known about Him. If in one place these writers are unreliable, then there is no certainty they can be relied upon in any place.

When the veracity of the writer is called in question, what he writes must be corroborated by the writings of others, or by data obtained from other sources. Since there is no information about the historic Jesus other than that in the four Gospels, then their writings cannot be verified by external material. They must be relied upon, or we have nothing reliable. If the integrity of the men who wrote the record we have of the life of Jesus is to be called in question, and one critic is to take the liberty of throwing out what one writer said in one place, but another critic accepts that but questions something else, the whole of what the four men wrote is thereby thrown into the question box, and we are at sea upon the ocean of uncertainty in every matter with neither compass or chart to guide us. Every man becomes the judge in his own right as to what shall be accepted. For the common man to try to follow such critics is to find himself chasing "wandering stars, for whom the blackness (let us say, of uncertainty) hath been reserved forever."

The Christian's firm and unshakable belief is that one can know the historic Jesus just as far as the records contain information concerning Him, or he can know nothing with any degree of certainty. If the testimony of the four be accepted, then we can know where Jesus was born, during the reign of what men, where he lived until his baptism, by whom he was baptized, and where. He can know of the temptations of Jesus and how He met them; he can know of His

conflicts with His enemies, and how He met them. One can know what Jesus taught on religious and moral questions, how He accepted the responsibilities of life, how He would have us to meet them. One may trace a somewhat definite and accurate path of the various journeys of Jesus and can know approximately how much time He spent in each journey. He can know what Jesus came to do, how He proceeded to do it, and what the final outcome of His efforts were. One can know of the reception He received at the hands of men generally, of the number he selected and trained for the special task of carrying on His work after Him; of the character of those men and of the influence Jesus had upon them. One can know of the final end of His life, how He met death, how He conquered it and of His return to the Father from whence He had come. Further, one can know of the results of that life and what was accomplished by it.

In a word, one can know the historic Jesus as far as the four Gospel writers have revealed Him, and no further; or he can know absolutely nothing of Him with certainty.
--Homer Haily

OUR PRAYER

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace!

Where there is hatred Let Me sow love,

Where there is injury..... Pardon,

Where there is doubt..... Faith,

Where there is despair.... Hope,

Where there is darkness... Light.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled..... As to console,

To be understood..... As to understand,

To be loved..... As to love.

For,

It is in giving..... That we receive,

It is in pardoning..... That we are pardoned,

It is in dying..... That we are born to
Eternal Life.

(Cont. Page 1) ~~As Christians,~~ thank God for Christ and all of the spiritual blessings which come from God. (James 1:17; IICor. 9:15; Eph. 1:3,7). Sel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There seems to be much interest in the Tri State area for the Ladies Fellowship at Lagrange this Saturday. Many attending the area fellowship at Ft. Wayne Friday evening indicated that they were coming and bringing several with them. Since reservations are asked from everyone attending, even those from Lagrange should sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the vestibule. If you do not have a program for the day, see sister Hostetler.

Time is fast passing and our own gospel meeting with brother Billy Ringold is scheduled for Oct. 21 through the 28 (a Thursday through Thursday). We anticipate a very fine meeting with brother Ringold, but it can only be productive if each of us does his part and attends and brings others with him. Begin to talk up the meeting with your friends and neighbors --- now.

Sister Sandy Brovont returned to the hospital this week. After a second operation she is improving and seems to be in good spirits. She is in room 108 and able to receive some visitors now. Let's show her we "care" by visiting or sending cards.

Ruth Wilson and Marcella Ritchie is returning to college(DLC) this week. Kent Hoggatt went last week. We'll miss them here and look forward to their return at the regular breaks. Our prayers are with them wherever they go.

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

September 19, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
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Telephone No. 463-3571

THE TONGUE

"The boneless tongue, so small and weak,
Can crush and kill," declared the Greek.
"The tongue destroys a greater horde,"
The Turk asserts, "than does the sword."
A Persian proverb wisely saith:
"A lengthy tongue--an early death."
Or, sometimes takes this form instead,
"Don't let your tongue cut off your head."
"The tongue can speak a word whose speed,"
Says the Chinese, "outstrips the steed."
While Arab sages this impart,
"The tongue's great storehouse is the heart."
From Hebrew wit the maxim comes:
"Though feet should slip, ne'er let the
tongue."

(Continued on page)

"I WISH I HAD SAID THAT"

I will ^{write} a column called: I wish I had said that. I think you will find this an enjoyable column of quotes, observations, puns, ideas which are humorous but full of meaning and worthwhile in Christian living.

The lazy man aims at nothing and usually hits it.

Quite a few people live in all electric homes; everything in them is charged.

Folks with a lot of brass are seldom polished.

Zeal with out knowledge is the sister of Folly.

It is a sad religion that is never strong except when the owner is sick.

The man who invented the eraser had the human race pretty well summed up.

THOUGHT QUESTIONS:

Is it ever right to do evil that good may come?
See Romans 12:9; 3:8.

Is "lawless government" contemplated in Romans 13?

"God judges those who are without" the Church. Does this imply it is not the Christians responsibility or place to judge in that realm, nor render punishment there? See I Corinthians 5:9-13.

Is a Christian justified in breaking a law, and if so under what conditions?

If there is danger of non-violent resistance evolving to the point of physical violence, should the risk be taken? What scriptures would apply?

CLASSIFIED AD: WANTED:

Men, women, and children to sit in slightly used pews three times each week.

--Sel.

Children seldom misquote you; they only repeat what you shouldn't have said.

THE ART OF PATIENCE

Reading of Peggy Fleming's Olympic triumph the young woman explains, "Why can't I win a contest or be good at something!"

We all can't possess great ability. With regular practice, few could run the mile under the four minute standard. Yes, the art of practice seems to make the difference between success and failure.

The astonishing common denominator between champions and also rans is the art of practice. When asked how much training she underwent to win the gold medal, the olympic champion replied, "I have practiced four hours in the morning and five hours before going to bed every night for the last seven years!" Well known pianist Roger Williams follows a similar time consuming schedule. Jim Ryun, holder of several distance records in track, runs upwards to twenty miles every day. The fine art of practice!

Christianity produces champions by the same curious route. Men and women who develop into spiritual giants do not receive this stature as a gift from heaven except through the process of indirection. It comes by hours of sacrifice, Bible reading, prayer, and service to others. . . the fine art of practice. Mediocrity in religion is a result of insignificant effort. Remember, depth of joy achieved in Christ is in proportion to the depth of practice.

--Selected

THE TONGUE (continued from page 1)

The sacred writer crowns the whole;

"Who keeps his tongue doth keep his soul."

(Proverbs 21:23--"Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue, keepeth his soul from troubles.")

--Selected

There are others who lean upon their wealth, power, or social prestige. Many people learn in life that these things are as uncertain as the wind in providing true security; but even though one fails to learn this lesson in life, he will certainly learn it in eternity. Christ alone is the solid foundation, and when we lean on his everlasting arms, we will never be forsaken or disappointed!

--Cleon Lyles.

Kissimmee Bulletin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From all reports from the ladies who attended the fellowship here yesterday it was a successful venture in every way. The talk from sister Montgomery was inspiring for the 240 plus who attended. We are happy for those results.

Our prayers will attend sister Goldie Pulley as she submits to another eye operation in the Parkview hospital in Ft. Wayne tomorrow. We hope that her recovery will be as speedily as from the last operation..... From last reports Sandy Brownont is slowly recovering from her operation and is now at home.

Our gospel meeting is one week closer. Plan now to be active and get the most good from this particular effort. We anticipate a good meeting with brother Billy Ringold.

SPECIAL STUDY THE NEXT THREE THURSDAY EVENINGS- in the auditorium. Study on the "Eldership" with an Elder from the Donnover Ave. congregation in South Bend, brother Ward Sullivan teaching. We urge attendance and study on this vital subject.

Earl Gieseke
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LaGrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

September 26, 1971

Schedule of Regular Services	
Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
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LaGrange, Indiana
Telephone No. 463-2571

I do not pray for a lighter load, but for a stronger back.

SEVEN DEADLY SINS

1. Business without morality.
2. Conviction without principle.
3. Knowledge without character.
4. Pleasure without conscience.
5. Science without humanity.
6. Wealth without work.
7. Worship without sacrifice.

--Selected

YES, IT'S A SIN

Forsaking the assembling of God's people is a sin. Those who willfully forsake the assembling of themselves as the custom of some are lost and will be lost eternally if they do not repent.

I do not know how to say it any plainer. This is not just an opinion. It is the undeniable truth. The careful student of the Bible knows it. Yet it is obvious that many who profess to be Christians deliberately and willfully absent themselves from the appointed assemblies without the slightest feeling of remorse or recognition of their sin.

I am convinced that many who are members of the church are completely unaware of such action constituting sin. Apparently they feel that one who comes occasionally when it is convenient or nothing prevents, is faithful to the Lord.

Absenteeism weakens the influence of the church upon the community in general and upon the lost whom we hope to reach in particular. We have no idea what we could do in this community or any other, if we could have the support of all who claim membership in the Lord's church.

We have no intentions of being unkind or hypocritical in bringing these facts to your attention. It is our purpose to bring you to a full realization that absenteeism will cause the child of God to lose his soul. Let us hope that each one can see this^{do} something about it while there is still time and opportunity.

The vacant pew has an eloquent tongue. To the preacher it says, "your efforts are not appreciated." It exclaims to the visitor "there is no interest here." To the weak member it says "you don't have to attend either." It is hard to preach effectively or listen profitably when the empty seat is crying out to be heard.

A strong church cannot be built of weak members, and strong members cannot be made out of those who come when it is convenient to come. Any service conducted in the name of the Lord is a good work. -Sel.

LEANING AGAINST THE WIND

There is a story about a student in Brown University who used to stop and watch the workmen walking along the steel girders of a skyscraper which was under construction. He said: "I always expected to see one of them fall, for they were seemingly so careless and nonchalant. Every morning I would stop for a few minutes to watch these human ants busy about their labors high in the air above the city streets. Then one morning I saw what I feared would happen. A workman fell from one of the steel girders to his death in the street below. A crowd quickly gathered around that broken body, I stood on the outskirts of the crowd and listened to the talk about the accident. A man who seemed to be in authority descended from the top of the building, hurried over to the body, looked down upon it and said: 'The fool was leaning against the wind!'"

"Later, I was able to ask this foreman what he had meant by 'leaning against the wind'. This was his answer: 'Well, you see, along the coast here in the morning hours, there is often a strong wind blowing from the ocean. A steel worker high on the building gets to leaning against the wind. It is easier to work that way. You don't have to resist so much. But an experienced worker soon learns that he dare not depend on the wind, for it may drop at any moment, and then he would topple to the ground. You can't depend on the stability of the wind.'"

Here is a parable for people today. How many of us get to leaning against the wind in life--or against something which is just as fickle, unstable and uncertain as the wind? There are some people who lean on their own understanding in religion, but the Bible teaches: "Trust in the Lord with all thy heart, and lean not upon thine own understanding." (Prov. 3:5). Some people lean upon their favorite preacher for spiritual support, but it is extremely dangerous to place one's confidence in any man beyond that which is written. The best of men sometimes falter.