

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday starts the beginning of a new quarter (Oct. through Dec.) for all our Bible classes. We urge everyone to be present as much as possible for the Bible classes. Our love for the truth is directly related to regular attendance in the services of the church. "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Will you encourage me with your presence?

The first Sunday singing at the Nursing Homes is this evening: 5p.m. at Miller's, 5:30 at Lagrange.

At this time it is hard to assess the results at Corn School with our booth. We are quite sure that many contacts were made that would not have otherwise been made. Thanks to all who helped out in this another attempt to reach the area with the "good news". We have sown the seed and our efforts shall not have been in vain. Isa. 55:11.

Men's business meeting will be Wed. at 7 p.m. We urge all the men to attend as we discuss the work of the church here.

The Auburn congregation has asked that the area singing which was scheduled for Lagrange next Sunday, be held there to coincide with their weekend meeting Oct 11-13 with brother Carl Clem. The singing here will be scheduled at another time.

Brother Martin Hall returned home from the hospital this week and sister May Wilson is improving satisfactorily from her operation. She is in room 236 at the Sturgis hospital.

Area activities will be given in next week's bull. (Lord willing)

Norman Herron
RR#5, Box 15
Lagrange, Ind 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

October 7, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Morning Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

ELDERS

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Phone 463-3318
Devon Hostetler - Topeka
Phone 593-2142

DEACON

Perry Miller - LaGrange
Phone 463-3979

Norm Herron, minister
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ONE PHONE CALL CAN

Show your concern	Cheer the sad
Learn of a need	Comfort the lonely
Encourage the downhearted	Reassure the suffering
Lift the depressed	Promote a good work
Strengthen the weak	Render a service

I DON'T WANT TO SHOCK YOU, BUT.....

Baptism is not a punched ticket to heaven. While, there are some things that baptism will do that nothing else can when properly preceded by : faith, repentance, and confession, it is not a sealed insurance of eternal life. Baptism will provide with all the power of God: Forgiveness of past sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16); entrance into Christ where all spiritual blessings abide (Gal. 3:26, 27; Eph 1:3); and addition to the saved body, the church (Acts 2:41,47; Col 1:18; Eph. 5:23).

However, there are some things that being buried with Christ in the waters of baptism just will not do. First, baptism will not change the heart. If you did not turn from sin and determine to serve God then you have never repented. Repentance is a turning point. Dipping one in water will never change the heart. That must be done in repentance. Second, baptism will not remove temptations. You will be tempted as long as you live upon this earth. Satan only departed from Jesus "for a season" (Luke 4:13). Third, baptism will not guarantee heaven. Those who believe so are misled. God's promises have always been conditional. As God demands one to obey specific conditions to receive the remission of his past sins, so God also calls upon a Christian to continue to obey to remain an heir to His promises.

One of the easiest commands and no doubt the very effortless, yet so very important, is for the Christian to worship God in the fellowship with the saints (Heb. 10:25). This is without question the most abused, neglected and most ignored command that God has given. Absence in attendance has plagued the church for years and has caused many not only to be lost in negligence, but has also led to a gross departure from the Christian way of life. A sniffle, headache, lack of sleep, sore on the elbow, visiting relatives, lack of husband or wife being able to attend are some of the ridiculous excuses that have been offered. How will these appear at the judgment is a good question to consider. These feeble excuses

"IS IT POSSIBLE FOR ME, AN AVERAGE
TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE?"

Doesn't it stand to reason that the God who gave the revelation by which one is drawn to Him (John 6:44, 45), and by which he will someday be judged (John 12:48), would enable man to understand that revelation? Else, where is the hope of salvation for the average person?

"Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope!" (Rom. 15:4). Only through study can one "show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Timothy 2:15).

There is no royal road to learning. One must study; there is no substitute. This doesn't mean that one must become a scholar, but it does mean that he, with open heart and receptive mind, must become a diligent, sincere searcher for truth.

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled (Matthew 5:6) This is God's promise to all men everywhere.

If in Jesus' day the "common" people "heard him gladly," surely, the average person today can hear and understand His message. By reading we can understand. (Ephesians 3:4).

Selected

* * * *

I DON'T WANT TO SHOCK YOU, BUT..... (cont.)
have caused many a member to willingly walk down the primrose path of sin. What less could a child of God do to show a lack of love for Christ and His people than failing to gather with HIS CHURCH, HIS PEOPLE, ON HIS APPOINTED DAY? No beloved, baptism will not guarantee you a home in heaven, while it is a good and necessary start. We must continue to love and serve God in the way He has revealed in His word. "This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments....." I John 5:3

--Selected

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was decided that a 7 o'clock Thursday evening Bible hour would be best, especially with the bus children (and parents of the church who liked to get their children home earlier during school nights) so beginning this Thursday evening, Oct. 17, we'll begin meeting at 7 o'clock. DON'T FORGET!

This afternoon the area singing is to be held at Auburn, Ind. The brethren asked that it be changed from Lagrange (originally scheduled here) to Auburn to coincide with their meeting, which began Friday and continues through this evening. Carl Clem from Bradford, Ark. is the speaker. The Harbor Lights quartette will be singing from 2 to 3 p.m. then the congregational singing will be from 3 to 4 p.m. Some from Auburn visited last Sunday especially to invite us to join them this Sunday. See the elders if you would like to go and do not have a way.

Other Gospel meetings:

- East Allen County, Oct. 13-18, C. W. Bradley, speaking, 7:30 each evening
- Mishawaka, Oct. 20-27, Jack Gray preaching, time, 7:30 each evening
- Columbia City, Nov. 4-10, Roger Barron, 8:30 pm.

Youth activities:

- Rally at Fairlawn congregation, Muncie Oct. 18, 19.
- Halloween party at Warsaw, Nov. 2, 7 p.m.
(see bulletin board for these events)

announcements continued on page #3

Norman Herron
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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

October 13, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Morning Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

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NEWS FROM SHULTS LEWIS CHILDREN'S HOME

On Sept. 14 the Shults Lewis Children's Home board received approval to become a foster home placement agency in Indiana. This is good news for Christians interested in providing a home and Christian guidance for homeless children. Under this arrangement, the state provides modest support for the care of foster children, and the Christians can provide those essentials which money cannot buy - love, security and Christian direction. Would you have an interest write Shults L.

WHAT AM I WORTH TO THE CHURCH

The tendency during the last few years has been to build up the church numerically, without much thought for genuine conversion. This has resulted in many unconverted people thinking they are Christians. The Christian is separated from sin and thus dies to it. The life an activity that has been devoted to worldly practice must then be devoted to Christ.

The Scriptures demand a personal examination (2 Cor. 13:5.) Having Christ in one and being a reprobate are two opposite conditions, and we cannot possess both at the same time. Hence, the need of self-examination to ascertain our true condition. Consider some questions that will aid in this examination.

1. Does My Life Glorify God? His glory is the thing we must aim at in all we do (I Pet. 4:11). Christ is the light of the world and good Christians are lights in the world. We should seek to approve ourselves to God and recommend ourselves to others that they may glorify God (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:14-15).

2. Am I A Help or A Hindrance To The Lord's Work? The church is built up by that which every joint supplieth (Eph. 4:16). The joints are members of the body and are expected to contribute something toward the edification of it. Any member that fails to contribute whatever he can to the advancement of the church is a dead joint that is detrimental to the body of Christ. We should maintain a cheerful and enthusiastic attitude toward the Lord's work (I Cor. 15:58).

3. Does My Being a Member of The Church Add Strength And Character To It? The opinion that many have of the Church is formed by what they see in us. We are known and read of all men (II Cor. 3:2). Our lives should display the principles taught by Christ. We should adorn our profession by honest behavior (I Pet. 2:12) Our behavior in every instance and action of life ought to be honest; that is good, decent and without blame.

4. Am I Encouraging the Weak and Erring? Christians should have a tender consideration and concern for one another. We are to teach, exhort and instruct one

another, and thus promote, love and good works. We should call upon ourselves and others to love God and Christ more, to love duty and holiness more, and to love God and Christ more. (Heb. 3:12, 10:23-25). We have a continuous responsibility to the weak and erring (Rom. 14:1; Gal. 6:1-2), and we should be doing the good we can to one another while we are together, which will be but a short and uncertain time.

5. Are We Pressing Forward Or Just Drifting Along? Christians have a race to run; a race of service and suffering. This race must be run with patience and perseverance (Heb. 12:1). Heaven is the prize of our high calling, and we must not stop short of the goal, but always press forward in holy desires and hopes, in constant endeavors and preparation (Phil. 3:13-15). "In due season we shall reap if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9).

--Selected

Via Central Carrier

(announcements continued from back page)

The Michigan Christian College Lectureship begins this week, Oct. 14 thru 17. This is indeed a highlight of the year for those who can arrange to go. Some from here are planning to go, including brother Herron. So, for this Thursday evening we'll have a different study then next Thursday, we'll begin a study of the book of Revelation, taught by brother Norm.

The Ladies will meet this Wed. at 9:30 a.m. to make tray favors. They invite all ladies to come

Sister May Wilson continues to improve, however she will likely be a week or so yet before she is able to come home. Try to visit her in room 236, Sturgis hosp.

Several things were discussed and proposed at the men's business meeting Wednesday evening. Future expansion of the facilities here were discussed also. We must look ahead as we continue to grow and offer the privilege of even countless others in this area to know and worship the Lord, while it is within our power to do so. Specific needs will be listed from time to time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A letter from brother Juan Monroy, a missionary in Madrid, Spain, indicates a great need which can be met by concerned Christians sharing in this work. (see front page of bulletin) The entire letter is on the bulletin board. Would you be willing to help if so, let the elders know and we can send our contributions together.

We are happy that two precious souls obeyed the gospel last Sunday and another was restored to the fold. Sister Jane Oren confessed error in her life and asked to be restored. Her husband Vern was baptized and also Carolyn Craig was baptized. All of these had been studying for some time with brother Herron, and we are happy that they had come to this decision. May they be faithful in the Lord.

Last Sunday our bus brought 54 (besides our own) children to Bible study. Brother Miller mentions specific needs for the bus in hopes that someone will volunteer the cost of the following items: A speaker system, first aid kit, seat covers and other smaller items. If you will, see brother Perry.

Mishawaka gospel meeting this week with Jack Gray 7:30 ea. Eve. A well planned and advertized meeting. Let's encourage them by our attendance.

Sister May Wilson underwent leg surgery last Tuesday and is responding well. Hopes to come home today..... A letter from Jim and Pat Lee asks the prayers of the church here for her father Leo Nafe, of Muncie, in the Ball hospital. Others have been ill and have been missed from services. We pray for these and hope, if God's will, to be healed.

Ladies meet this Wed. at 9:30 for work projects.

Young people invited to Halloween party at Warsaw Nov. 2. See bulletin board for details:

A Civic announcement: Vaccination for measles to be given free of charge by Co. Nurse. See bull. bd.
Norm Herron, RR#5, Box 15, Lagrange, In 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

October 20, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Morning Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

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SPECIAL REQUEST FROM MISSIONARY IN SPAIN

Brother Juan Monroy, a missionary doing a good work in Spain, writes us concerning a need, as follows:
".. each day more than 200 people write me asking for a Bible. Soon our supply will be gone. There are so many people who want to be taught about Jesus Christ. But what are we to do? To reach more people, we must have more teachers and more Bibles, more radio preaching, more Bible study courses" Please help us.

TRY THE SPIRITS
WHETHER THEY ARE OF GOD

One cannot help but be reminded of the silversmith in Ephesus that became disgruntled with Paul because he taught against idolatrous worship of Diana. The workmen, who made their living by making shrines of Diana, were on the verge of going out of business so they started a movement against Paul and coined the slogan "Great is Diana of the Ephesians". Many folks today become dissatisfied with hearing God's truth proclaimed uncompromisingly and they rush about with their "loveless, hard" slogans in open warfare against the preacher, the church and God. Man makes the preacher into a political figure and changes the church into a political battleground. There with gnashing teeth, insentitive to the preacher, the preacher's family and God they re-enact pitiful scenes like those of Jesus at Golgotha, Paul in Ephesus, and John before Herod. The people of this ungodly illicit movement take on the likeness of those hypocritical Jews and the immoral Herod. All this occurs in the name of Christianity since this is supposedly good for the church. The pathetic thing is that it just takes a few loud people to begin a movement, an eldership that does not want any trouble, and a frightened membership that is afraid of standing for the truth to cause one of the most disastrous events in a church's life.

The "loveless, hard preacher" movement generally begins with dissatisfied hypocritical member of the church. The preacher steps on their toes with a sermon which deals with their pet sins and these individuals, not wanting to change their lives, seek to change the preacher's life. Finally after much backbiting, whispering and trumped-up charges, the movement trumped up charges, the movement gains momentum. This movement will not reach great strides however, until an elder lends a supporting ear and then the movement skyrockets. The eldership then desiring not to have trouble seeks the supposedly easy way out and tells the preacher good-by.

Every Christian needs to recognize adequately various movements throughout the brotherhood. Elders need to evaluate and search every spirit to see if it be from God or from man. When movements arise within the church that are antagonistic to God's will then elders need to stifle them before they start. It is this writer's firm opinion that many of the liberal movements which threaten the church have resulted directly from members of the church and elders who have failed to stop these evil movements in the church.

Now what can we do to fight against the Satanic movements? First, if you have a preacher who preaches God's truth uncompromisingly, then both members and elders, support the man. A preacher has a full-time job fighting evil without having to fight those members who are supposed to be on God's side. Secondly, learn to recognize false movements and the disciples of false movements. "If an elder is responsible for leading or participating in a false movement, then he should not be an elder." But when each elder is standing by strong and sound doctrine and is living in holy harmony with such teaching he richly deserves unstinted support from the preacher, deacons, teachers and all the membership. If on the other hand, he is a sound gospel preacher, he ought to be cherished. When a preacher is only accused of being hard, narrow, and loveless he is usually being accused of the only fault men can pretend to find with him. They cannot find anything wrong with his preaching, since he is preaching the truth. If a member of the church is leading such a movement, he should be disciplined since he is in violation of God's will. Listen to this final thought, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world." (I Jn.4:1)

Ask yourself this question: Am I supporting the gospel by supporting the sound preacher who proclaims the gospel in its plenary form?

--Selected
via Ypsilanti News

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The new congregation in Columbia City is scheduling a gospel meeting Nov. 4-10 with brother Roger Barron of Ligioneer, Pa.

The area singing is to be at Kendallville Nov. 10.

This evening, being the fourth Sunday of the month, brother Bob Sowles will be speaking in the place of brother Norm.

The Ladies are planning to meet again this Wed. morning at 9:30 for work projects. All ladies invited.

Sister May Wilson continues to improve at home, but it will be some time before she can attend services. She expresses her thanks to all who visited, sent flowers and especially the meals which different ladies took out to her last week. We are thankful for her recovery.

Activities for the youth:

Skating party at the Holiday Roller Rink in Elkhart Tuesday evening, 6:30 to 9:00. If 25 or more express a desire to go, the bus will leave at 5:30 at the building. Let us know by Sun. eve.

A Halloween party at Warsaw Saturday evening. See details of this on the bulletin board.

Open House for all High School students Nov. 22 & 23 at Michigan Christian College. Program for this event is posted on bulletin board.

We appreciate the attendance of all our visitors today and hope that you will return at every opportunity.

Norman Herron
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LaGrange, Ind. 46761

L A G R A N G E

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

October 27, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30	A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30	A. M.
Worship Service	10:30	A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00	P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00	P. M.

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ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THE CHURCH OF CHRIST'S CHOICE?

Many honest and sincere people have never thought that Christ might have a choice in religion, so often do they hear the statement: "Attend the church of YOUR choice." Yet Paul said, "Wherefore also we make it our aim, whether at home or absent, to be well pleasing to HIM." 11 Cor. 5:9 (A.S.V.) Aren't we more interested in complying with Christ's choice than with our own?

form tract by Robert L. Schales

" I CAN'T MAKE HIM MIND"

A mother came to a well known educator with the complaint, "I don't know what to do my boy: He won't mind a word I say."

"How old is he?"

She replied, "He is four, going on five."

The educator retorted, "If you can get along with him three or four years longer the state will take him off your hands and try to make him mind. They have detention homes, reform schools, and later on, penitentiaries to help them make boys mind."

An ex-judge said that about 98% of the tens of thousands now in the penitentiaries of this country were boys whose mothers could not make them mind in the home. The educator questioned the mother if she ever punished the boy when he disobeyed.

"Punish him! I don't believe in punishing children. Why it would nearly kill me to punish him."

"And that," the man replied, "is exactly your trouble. You are not willing to hurt yourself for the good of the boy."

"You allow your feelings to keep you from doing what needs to be done. You are too selfish. You think you are showing love for the boy, but genuine love is willing to suffer for the good of others. You think a whipping will hurt you, but it will help your boy. A diamond to be of value, must be cut and ground and polished. There are many diamonds in the rough at San Quentin prison today just because they were not polished in the home."

"Every day some shamefaced mother with a broken heart and bowed head sits in a court room and hears the judge pronounce sentence upon her son....she hears. (cont)

NO PLACE TO COAST

Some way, some how or the other, many members of the church have obtained the idea that although there is no place to quit, it is all right to "coast" a little once in a while.

This isn't referring to those who gave up long ago and never darken the doors of the building. But refers to those who are fairly consistent in their attendance as somewhat of a sacrifice on their part as a simple fulfillment of a duty and not a blessing.

Such have begun to "coast". There inlies a great danger. You know how it is when one rides a bicycle downhill. He coasts along without any effort on his part. But, after he comes to a level place he begins to slow down and go slower and slower until he finally comes to a stand-still, unless he begins to apply himself to the pedals.

So it is with church members who are content to "coast" They seem to think that everything is fine: that they are getting along nicely without putting forth any effort. But they fail to foresee the time when it will be necessary to start pedaling or stop altogether.

The lesson is this: You can't keep on coasting. The time will come when one must put oneself into the work or stop deadstill. In the Christian life, there is little or no time for coasting. Most of the way is uphill and those who want to coast soon become weary and drop out of the race altogether.

Those who have their gaze firmly on the goal, keep applying their feet to the pedals.

--Selected

(Can't make him mind) cont. from page 2
a judge making her son mind, the son she couldn't make mind."

--Selected

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This evening at 5 o'clock, we will hold our monthly singing at the Merry Manor Nursing Home. Then, we will meet at the Lagrange Nursing Home at 5:30. Not only are singers encouraged to come, but we need to just do some visiting with the patients, which anyone can do. So, come out and join us.

A gospel meeting at the new congregation in Columbus City is scheduled Nov. 4-10 with brother Roger Barron of Summerville, Penn. preaching. If any wants to go, without a way, please see elders.

The last youth activity at Camp Indogan possibly this year will be held next Fri. through Sunday. Donmoyer Ave. in So. Bend is planning the program and invite all in grades 9-12 to come. See Bull.Bd.

On the 14, 15 & 16th of Nov. brother Herron will be attending a Men's Leadership Training Course which we hope that can be presented here in time to come. The study has been very helpful in the area of development of leaders, teachers, speakers, etc. in so many of our congregations, and in looking forward in the work here, we need to plan and develop our own potentials in the church.

A note from sister Mary Crubaugh asks that we give her present address so that many of her friends here will write her. It is: RR#1, Box 78
Angola, In 46703

A list of jobs are posted on the bulletin board for general fall cleaning. Would you please note these and sign for the one you can do.

It was so good to have sister May Wilson back with us last Thursday evening. Sickness has kept some of our members from coming. We miss all who can't.

Norman Herron
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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

November ⁵ 18, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Hour	7:00 P. M.

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UNITED OR UNTIED ?

Recently, in proofreading an article for a religious paper, a fellow gospel preacher noted the following error. The sentence read, "THE CHURCH WAS UNTIED". Of course it should have read: "THE CHURCH WAS UNITED". What a world of difference there is between the two words! It was obvious, however that the entire difference was simply because the "I" was out of place. This mistake bears out this truth: If "I" am out of place in my service for Christ, I keep the church untied. Selected.

OBEDIENCE, DISCIPLINE, AUTHORITY Their Repulsiveness and Their Necessity

There is something about the term obedience that provokes instant rebellion. There has always been and always will be a certain nature of man that urges him to rebel at anything he feels is demanded of him. Perhaps it is a feeling of inferiority or weakness when one is required to bend his will to that of another. Perhaps it is a sense of loss of freedom and individuality when one demands something of another that was not his original idea or desire. Whatever the reason, the fact remains that mankind simply does not hasten to obey anything. Many times this resentment is controlled inwardly, but still it festers. In other cases it takes the form of outright open rebellion often resulting in destruction and anguish.

The small child is at first stubborn and rebellious to his parents. He must be disciplined and chastened, but it takes time for him to bend his own strong will and desires to those of his parents; often it is many years later before he realizes that they were only demanding of him what was really in his best interest. Early discipline is a necessary part of raising children. Discipline coupled with love and understanding will in time produce self-discipline. Self-discipline and willful obedience are two of the most important attributes a person must possess in order to live happily in the world today.

The world today is rapidly becoming engulfed in the hallucination that obedience should be of private individual choice. The "do your own thing freedom philosophy" is simply another way of stating that if a person does not like or agree with a particular law, practice or procedure, he should be allowed to openly rebel against it, regardless of the burden it may place on others. It should be obvious that no nation, government, business or home could long exist if everyone were to follow this philosophy. Outright arrogant rebellion has never produced anything but chaos and anarchy, and the chaotic state our country is rapidly

approaching is most certainly due to the lack of self-discipline and willful obedience.

It may seem naive and presumptuous of me to state that I can pinpoint the primary cause for the lack of self-discipline and obedience that is so prevalent today, but I feel that I am very close if not right on target when I say that the major reason is the loss of respect for the authority of God. There has most certainly been a decline in the christian belief and in faith and respect for God and His Holy Word. Mankind today has become so engulfed in his own advancements and accomplishments that he truly believes that he is his own god. Belief and dependence upon a superior being has been replaced by self philosophy and individual intellectualism. The younger men and women who shall soon run our civilization and rule our nation are being so overwhelmed by this new "self individual freedom" that they, for the most part, have not even considered inquiring about God through the only source that reveals him to us: The Holy Bible. Much of this blame can be placed on those older persons who did not take time to stress the importance of God and His Word to them as children, but the primary reason that both young and old alike do not inquire into the scriptures leads us back to the subject of obedience.

For to believe in God, to respect His authority, to live as a christian requires submission on one's self and complete surrender to God's rules and regulations revealed in His Word. This, man is not willing to do!
--SELECTED

It is heartening to see the attendance climb toward the 200 mark. With a little effort and the attendance of all the faithful members of the church at Lagrange, this mark could be easily be reached. Our highest has been 196. The Sunday morning attendance for the month of October ran: 190, 180, 188 and 163. Let's make an honest appraisal of whether we are putting the Lord first in our lives, and see the Lord's purpose of our meeting together regularly for our spiritual good. When we do this, the number in attendance will reflect the dedication of a group who wants to do the Lord's will.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A rally day marking the 4th anniversary of the Church in Angola is to be held next Sunday. Brother Hobert Ashby, of the Garden City, Mich. congregation will be speaking for both the morning and evening services. They also plan to have a special afternoon program, which they invite any from surrounding congregations to be with them for this.

The 2nd and 4th Sunday evening will be interchanged this month. Brother Norm has been asked to come to North Manchester this evening to speak in place of brother Andrews who is in a gospel meeting at Rochester. Brother Dale Morgan is to speak here at the evening services. Norm will speak on the 4th.

The week of the 17th, brother James Meadows will be in a gospel meeting at Monticello, Ind. Is there any here that would like to go one evening? Tell us.

FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - Michigan Christian College Open House on the 22 and 23rd of Nov. See bull. bd.

We are sorry upon hearing about two deaths this week. Mary Schrock's father (John Miller - died Nov. 5) and Delores Kinsinger passed away Nov. 8. Brother Herron conducting her services at the Carney Funeral Home Monday at 10:30 a.m. The ladies of the church are providing the meal Monday noon at the building. Any who wish to contribute, see M. Herron.

A letter from Rita Stevens expresses the best wishes to the church here. For her address, see Herrons.

Bloodmobile, Nov. 18. Mt. Zion Luth. church, 10 to 4.

Norm Herron
Rt. 5, Box 15
LaGrange, Ind 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

November 10, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

ELDERS

Dean Hoggatt - LaGrange
Phone 463-3318
Devon Hostetler - Topeka
Phone 593-2142

DEACON

Perry Miller - LaGrange
Phone 463-3979

Norm Herron, minister
405 South Townline Road
Route 5, Box 15
LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Phone 463-3571

WHAT CAN I DO ??

- *Visit a shut-in
- ** Visit the sick
- *** Give as God has prospered me
- **** Tell a lost soul about Jesus
- ***** Take food to a sick neighbor
- ***** Comfort the bereaved
- ***** Care for the needs of the homeless child
- ***** Give someone a gospel tract
- * THE LIST COULD GO ON AND ON AND ON

HOW DO YOU WALK??

This could be a strange question to some and especially when we do so little walking today. The reason for asking the question is because we have a statement in Ephesians 5:15-16 which says, "Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

To Christians the apostle Paul is encouraging them to ascertain the clear line of right as revealed by the Word of the Lord, and then keep it strictly. From these words of Paul we learn that if we are not walking by God's Word we are following an unwise course. Having chosen the Christ as our Saviour let us walk and reflect the spirit of wise men. "Because the days are evil." In Colossians 4:5, Paul says, "Walk in wisdom toward them that are without." Those not members of the church keenly watch the conduct of those claiming to be Christians. The lives of Christians are the Bible the world reads. Let it not be wasted as it was before we entered the Christian race but let us seize every opportunity for doing good.

Every Christian needs to study the Word of God(daily) understand it and live it out in his every day "walk!" How grateful we are to God for revealing Christ to us through the gospel. Others will enjoy the uplifting and purifying effect of the gospel, too, if we will reveal it to them.

Why not choose a friend or a loved one today and begin that great and noble work of guiding him to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world? This friend who becomes a Christian will also want to play a part in leading someone to Christ and as this program is developed by the newly won Christians it is not going to stop until every last son and daughter of Adam has been reached with the never changing gospel of Christ.

LOOK THEREFORE CAREFULLY HOW YE WALK
--Selected

HOW IS LOVE EXPRESSED

Love has many ways of expressing itself--but in general the ways are two--the practical and the sentimental.

Which is the higher and better way?

It is merely a question of appropriateness under the circumstances. Love must express itself very often in carrying in the coal, and preparing the corn meal or fixing the garden gate. But let it not be concluded that love may not express itself in acts of pure sentiment. The soul has needs.

Sympathy and tenderness and friendship are just as real and often more enduring, than coal or wood. Sometimes a fragrant flower is more important than a bag of flour; sometimes a word of cheer is better than a bag of gold.

--Selected

It may be further observed:

That some individuals function best when first inspired by visible expressions of sentimentality. It sets them on fire to act vigorously. It supplies the motivation for and the desire to accomplish--worthwhile tasks.

While others have a deep sense of duty and can not take time for sentimentality unless everything has been done first. And even then it may be difficult for them to allow for sentimentality--for duty is a never ending responsibility.

Take time to love fully.
AND SOMETHING ELSE:

How much time do you spend with your family each week? Do you know the reason why there is so many problems with our youth? Most fathers do not even spend "8" minutes a day with and for their child. --Selected

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A gospel meeting (somewhat out of the area- 1½ hr. driving) is scheduled at Paulding, Ohio. The new preacher at Glenwood congregation, Ft. Wayne is preaching. Nov. 22-24, 7:30, evening services.

A meeting at Monticello, Ind. with brother James Meadows (time to be announced after rechecking). Brother Meadows held a meeting for us this summer and won the affection of many. If you would like to go one evening, let us know.

Brother Devon is taking a van load of teenagers to MCC next week-end. See him if you want to go.

A 4th. anniversary of the Angola church is to be remembered by a special 2 o'clock service with brother Hobert Ashby, of Garden City, Mich. speaking. They invite us to this service this afternoon.

The congregation here supports a child at Shults Lewis Children's Home each month. His name is Danny Davis. He will be eight years old on Nov. 21. Although we have not had the benefit of his visit, (a few have met him), we are sure that he would be quite pleased to receive a birthday card from many of us. Address it to him, in care of the Home, P.O. box 471, Valparaiso, In 46383

We are sorry to learn that Verna Thomas' mother, Mrs. Biggs, was taken to the hospital because of a heart attack Sister Jo Surber is scheduled for surgery this Wednesday. Pray for these and plan to visit when their recovery permits.

Notes of community interest:

Bloomfield, Nov. 18, Mt. Zion Luth. church, 10-4. Anyone desiring to give gift to the state mental hospital patients, please see letter from Les Wier who is coordinating this in Lagrange Co. See B. 62.

A "thank you" note was sent along with a newsletter from Mrs. Jane Wheeler (Coordinator of the Clay Elm School) for the pillows and Quills made and sent by the ladies here. Letter is on Bulletin B. Norman Herron, RR#5, Box 15, Lagrange, In 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

November 17, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

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HOW TO TELL WHEN YOU ARE SLIPPING

1. He forgets to read the Bible. Too busy.
 2. He ceases to pray. God seems farther & farther away.
 3. He no longer feels an obligation to win others to the Lord. Let the "leaders" do it.
 4. He becomes irregular in attendance. Not learning.
 5. He stops giving. Needs all himself. Don't agree with way contributions are spent anyhow.
 6. He begins to criticize others. Eases own conscience.
- DO ANY OF THESE APPLY TO YOU?

I'M GOING TO STAY A FATHER

At a time when being a buddy to one's son is popular, I am going to stay a father. I believe it may yet prove to have been a bit of sad psychology when dads are called, "Jim, Pete, Art, Tom or Jack" by their children. When Spock, Freud, Dewey and William James have conspired to make dad a minor stockholder on the home's board of directors, when women's rights, civil rights, people's rights, children's rights and property rights have made it wrong for fathers to speak with authority, I am going to stay a father.

If a gap exists between my sons and daughters and myself, I am going to work hard to understand. But I'm also going to work hard to be understood. I shall try to understand why long hair, when kept clean and trimmed does not identify one as a hippy, yippie, radical or reactionary, any more than short hair identifies one as a clean, moral, upright citizen. But I shall not ape my sons. I will abide by an older distinction, when long hair was a fitting symbol of womanliness. The young may refer me to Samsen, to medieval pictures of Jesus, or to the powdered wigs, or braided locks of the fathers of our country--but I shall refer them to Paul, I Cor. 11:14, who said: "Does not nature teach that it is a shame for a man to have long hair.?"

When they tell it like it is, I'll listen, even if I like it better like it was. If old-fashioned things as prayer, Bible study, worship, and faith in God ever seem to my children to be out of it, square, or whatever--I trust God's help to have faith enough to yet pray for them, and I pledge with Job, to offer up additional sacrifices for them.

With love in our home, I will answer their questions about the facts of life, but at nudeness or lewdness I refuse to wink. Drinking and smoking are as out of place and unwanted in my home as profanity or the plague. And if experimentation with drugs or marijuana is ever a problem, it will be in violation of my

every prayer and request. No laissez-faire attitude will be accepted here--even if the weed is legalized and social "tripping" becomes as acceptable as social drinking.

I want my children to know that I make mistakes, that I am foolish, proud, and often inconsistent. But I will not tolerate that as an excuse for my hypocrisy. I ask them to help me change as children should, and to expect me to help them change in the methods expected of a parent. Others may look to the under-30 crowd for the wisdom to throw away the past, and to say what will remain for future generations: others may let the offspring in the house determine the foods, the music, and the spending of the household money, but I am going to stay a father.

--Selected

THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST

The gospel of Christ is the message of the ages to all the souls of men for all the ills of men. It reaches down from high heaven to lift earth from low depths. It is the saving gospel for the lost world, the whole gospel for the woe world. To darkened hearts it is the torch of truth. To hard hearts it is the hammer that breaks the rock in pieces. To lonely hearts it comes as a messenger of companionship to fill the soul's living room with friendly fellowship. The gospel is God's power to save believers. (Rom. 1:16). It is the testimony of the Spirit to convince skeptics. It is the heavenly instrument to turn men from darkness, and from the power of Satan unto God.

--A. C. Williams.

A Pessimist has no motor; an Optimist has no brakes. The Pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity. The Optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.. Measure of greatness is not the number of servants a man has, but the number of people he serves. ___Sel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This past week we were made to rejoice that three souls responded to the invitation of Christ. Tuesday evening, Polly Conley expressed her desire to serve Christ. She was baptized 2 yrs. ago, understanding her sins were forgiven, but since that time became unfaithful. She came repenting and asking prayers for her forgiveness. Polly and her husband, Rondal, have six children..... Thursday evening Joe Loveall came asking to be baptized. About an hour later, his wife Pat also came asking baptism.... We welcome these three into the fellowship of God's people at Lagrange and pray for them the richest of blessings as they walk in the Lord.

Mid-week service this week will be on Wed. evening (a usual change to allow families travelling over the holiday, without missing services) Remember!

(Ft. Wayne)
A skating party at the Roller Dome Monday evening and also one at the Holiday (Elkhart) Tuesday evening is scheduled for any who would like to go. We plan to run the bus Tues. evening (25¢ fare - if not enough to cover cost, two have volunteered to make up the difference) Bus leaves building at 5:30.

Sister Jo Surber is recovering satisfactorily following surgery Wed. Little Chris Weaver is now home after being hospitalized for an intestinal flu. We pray for a speedy recovery for our sick loved ones.

Bob Bowles family have moved to Lagrange. Their address is RR#5, Box 8 (a home just one block north of W.S. 20 and Townline Rd.) We are happy that they can be nearer for all the church activities. (Thanks to Joe & Fred Oakley and Norm Herron for their help in moving Bob) (using Perry's trailer and Devon's truck)
Ladies meet this Wed. Morning at 9:30 for fall cleaning work and other work projects.

We thank brother Devon for taking the young people to MEC for the high school day Fri. & Sat.

Norman Herron, RR#5, Box 15, Lagrange, In 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

November 24, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

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LaGrange, Indiana 46761

DOES THIS MAKE SENSE TO YOU?

If a man would be a hunter,
He must go among the trees.

And he couldn't be a sailor,
If he didn't sail the seas.

How strange for any member
Of the church to think that he

Can stay away from worship,
And still a Christian be !!!

... selected...

THE FOLLY OF FELIX

When Paul plead for the soul of Governor Felix (Acts 24:22-26). the governor made the mistake that many make now. As Paul reasoned of "righteousness, and temperance, and the judgment to come. Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." So Paul left Felix, and the foolish Felix, waiting for a "convenient season"., spurned the opportunity to save his soul. To those who have learned the truth, and have not obeyed, we ask, "What are you waiting for?" You probably intend to be a follower of Christ some day, but now something hinders you, you say. What is it? Why wait?

Are you like Felix in his folly waiting for a convenient season? When do you think it will be any easier to obey Christ than now? Your days of opportunity are swiftly passing by. Some day it will be too late. "...ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." (Jas. 4:4).

You are acting unwisely if you wait until some future time before you do what God tells you that you must do in order to go to heaven. Satan will never let you come to the Savior without opposition. (I Pet. 5:8).

Honestly and frankly, there is no good reason for not obeying God. Wait no longer. Be honest with yourself, your soul, and your God. Think it over before it is too late. Not only think, but act! "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:15-16). "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38). Then live faithful as a Christian. Will you?

--Sel.

THE SHIP THAT CAME IN

The sole survivor of a ship wreck was cast upon an uninhabited island. After a while he managed to build a rude hut in which to place his "little all" that he had saved from the sinking ship. He prayed to God for deliverance, and anxiously scanned the horizon each day to hail any ship that might chance to pass. One day, upon returning from a hunt for food, he was horrified to find that his hut was in flames. All that he had was gone. To his limited vision it was the worst that could happen, and he cursed God. Yet, the very next day a ship arrived. "We saw your smoke signal," the captian said.

--Sel.

FORGIVE

We may, if we choose, make the worst of one another. Everyone has his weak points; everyone has his faults; we may make the worst of these; we may fix our attention constantly upon these. But we may also make the best of one another. We may forgive, even as we hope to be forgiven. We may put ourselves in the place of others, and ask what we should wish to be done to us, and thought of us, were we in their place. By loving whatever is lovable in those around us, love will flow back from them to us, and life will become a pleasure instead of a pain; and earth will become like Heaven; and we shall become not unworthy followers of Him whose name is Love.

--Sel.

INTERESTING FACT

The middle chapter of the Bible, and also the shortest chapter in the Bible is Psalm 117. It contains only two verses. The middle verse in the Bible is Psalm 118:8.

Doing nothing for others is the undoing of our own selves.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This evening at 5 o'clock we will have our monthly sing at the Merry Manor Nursing Home, then at 5:30, on to the Lagrange Nursing Home. We invite any and all to join us in our monthly sing for these folks.

Next Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, the area singing which involves a dozen congregations in the area will be held at Columbia City.

The first of the anticipated arrivals occurred for the Joe Oakley's Saturday morning. A new baby girl, Donna Lafay was born, weighing in at 5 lbs, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. We are happy with them and are glad to report mother, daughter (and father) are doing fine.

Sister Jo Surber is now home and is recovering well from her surgery.

For the Men - The bi-monthly men's fellowship will be started again, this time on Dec. 13 at the Richard's Restaurant in Ft. Wayne. Time 7 p.m. The men who attended these in the past enjoyed them. Perhaps we can get a car or two and go next Fri. week.

A 4th anniversary quartette sing is scheduled for Defiance, Ohio on Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. (Jr. Hi Auditor.) If you would like to go, let us know.

The nursery attendants say that they would like to have some toys for boys. Got any that you can give?

Norman Herron
RR#5, Box 15
Lagrange, Ind 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

December 1, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

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Norm Herron, minister
405 South Townline Road
Route #5, Box 15
Lagrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

WILL IT MATTER 100 YEARS FROM NOW

Whether you lived in a mansion or a rented house?
Vacationed in California or your backyard?
Ate steak or a pot of beans?
Owned an automobile or rode a bus?
But - It will make a difference whether or not you
died faithfully in the Lord or died a lost sinner!

THIS TOO SHALL PASS AWAY

Have you ever found consolation in a time of trouble in this thought, "This too shall pass away"? We are aware that storm is followed by sunshine, sorrow by joy and darkness by light. Each day is different and the present fades into the past.

No life is all storm and darkness, neither is any life all sunshine and joy. Life is tempered by the various cycles of these opposites.

The optimist concentrates on the good and emphasizes it, knowing that what darkness may try to dim each day that, "This too shall pass away."

The pessimist concentrates on the storms of life. To him, sunny days are only mirages on the road of gloom. Already he sees on the horizon an approaching storm cloud more ominous, dark and horrible than any he has ever known. Thus he sinks lower and lower in gloom and despair, even on a bright and sunny day.

Someone has well said, "If it wasn't for the pessimist, the optimist would never know how unhappy he wasn't." To that could be added, "If it wasn't for the optimist, the pessimist would never know how unglomy he wasn't."

The optimist makes mountains of sunshine out of the blessings of life and these radiant mountains light up the valleys below. The pessimist makes mountains of gloom out of the molehills of trouble and in these selfmade darkened valleys beams his own despair.

Man receives the channel he is tuned in to. The optimist is selective. He sees the majesty of God written in the heavens and His handiwork in nature. The flowers bloom, the birds sing, friends smile and bountiful blessings flow from God. All things work together for good. The optimist is a person of strong faith.

The pessimist, however, is constantly tuned into the frequency of trials and troubles. His ears hear only the static of storms; his eyes see only the sorrowful and seamy side of humanity. And his mind wanders tormentedly in his own grotteaque world of despair.

Who is the true optimist? The true optimist is the faithful Christian who knows, "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Rom. 8:28)

The faithful Christian, by faith, knows that beyond this life lies the city of God, Heaven itself. In that eternal city there will be no more pain, death, sorrow, crying or tears. Yes, "These too shall pass away," forever, but Heaven with all it's good things shall abide forever. What more could man ask for or expect than to be with God and Christ eternally in Heaven?

--Selected

R. R. Page

Several persons were asked what three things they most wished. A student said, "Give me books, health and quiet and I care for nothing more." A miser cried "Money, money money!" A pauper faintly said, "Bread, bread, bread!" A drunkard called loudly for strong drink. The multitude lifted up a confused cry. "Wealth, fame and pleasure." A poor man who had long borne the character of an experienced Christian replied that all his wishes might be met in Christ. He spoke seriously, and when asked to explain said, "I greatly desire three things: first, that I be found in Christ; secondly, that I may be like Christ; thirdly that I may be with Christ." --Selected

What an absurd thing it is to pass over all the valuable parts of a man, and fix our attention on his infirmities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As was announced last Sunday, this afternoon at 3 o'clock the Columbia City congregation is hosting the area singing. If you would like to go and do not have a way, let us know.

Since it has been some time since our last "all-church" pot luck dinner, we would like to schedule one next Sunday (Dec. 15) immediately following morning services. Plan now to stay and enjoy the fellowship with other Christians here.

A reminder to the men here - Following evening services, brother Norm would like to share with us an exciting class for leadership training. It will likely last for 20 to 30 minutes, so make plans to attend.

Also for the men, the men's bi-monthly fellowship will be held next Friday evening, Dec. 13, at the Richard's Restaurant in Ft. Wayne. Time 7 o'clock. Let's represent Lagrange with at least a car load.

The ladies will plan to meet this Wednesday morning at 9:30 to make tray favors for the hospital and Nursing Homes

TEACHERS - Have you picked up your copy of the Christian Bible Teacher magazine? and there are still some Personal Evangelism magazines in the vestibule for workers to take.

Our bus program is waging battle with the chicken pox - perhaps soon this disease will be gone.

Norman Herron
RR#5, Box 15
Lagrange, Ind. 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

December 8, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

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Telephone No. 463-3571

ARE YOU READING THIS ?

Some people have not been receiving the bulletin each week. Others receive it but don't read it. Still others read only the announcements. None of these is good. If you haven't been reading all of the bulletin please do so. Much time and effort goes into this little paper each week for our edification. Any suggestion for its improvement would be appreciated.

THE LORD'S CHURCH

This church pleads for the restoration of the New Testament church; practices the unity of all Christians on the basis of God's word; has no creed but Christ; and preaches no "isms."

This church seeks to present Christianity, as intelligent as science, as intimate as home, and as inspiring as love.

The foundation - "Other foundations can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."
I Cor. 3:11

The creed - "Thou art the Christ, the son of the living god." Matt. 16:16

The rule of Faith and Practice - Every Scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction, which is in rightness; that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work." 2 Tim. 3:16-17

The name - "The disciples were called Christians first at antioch." Acts 11:26. "The churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

The worship - "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayers." Acts 2:42

The mission - "Go ye therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Matthew 28:19-20

The prayer - That the disciples of Christ may all be one that the world may believe God sent Him.
John 17:21

WHEN SHOULD WE START SAVING SOULS?

It is difficult to get young married couples to do personal work. It is more difficult to get middle-aged adults to teach cottage meetings. It is almost impossible to get older adults to change their ways. Everyone finds it easier to make excuses than to be busy in the Master's kingdom.

In the summer we say, "Wait till school starts and we get back to a more regular routine." When school starts we say, "Wait till summer when we will have more time for doing church work." When it is summer, it is too hot. In the winter it is too cold.

When we were young, we want to wait until we finish school, get married and settle down before we start. When we are old, we wish we had begun before we had to work so hard and could learn easier.

On and on excuses are made and souls are lost. There will never be a convenient time for doing the Lord's work. Pick out a close friend that is lost and constantly watch for opportunities to teach this one the gospel. Study 2 Timothy 2:24,25 thoroughly in order to develop the proper attitude for personal evangelism. If your attitude is correct, you (through the word of God may) will never offend him; but if you present it right, you have done the Lord's will. You will never learn how until you try...and the time to begin is NOW!

--Selected
Mid McNight

(Cont. from Page 2)

The invitation - We earnestly invite to cooperation and prayers of all who endorse these principles.

--Selected & Adapted

Announcements

Immediately following morning services, as soon as things can be arranged, pot-luck dinner will be spread in our fellowship rooms. We hope that everyone who is here can and will stay for the dinner. It might be that you forgot about this and didn't bring anything. Don't let that bother you. There is always plenty and we do want you to stay. We all need this fellowship often.

Brother Perry Miller asked to announce a bus workers night next Friday evening. Be there at 7 p.m. He says "Pizza & pop" will be shared as well as an evening profitable to everyone regarding this important work. Both husbands and wives are invited, and the teenagers who are involved in the bus work.

The ladies will meet at Thelma Hoggatt's this Wednesday morning at 9:30 to work on tray favors. One way to show the hospital and nursing home patients that they are recognized and remembered.

We learned that Jessie Pieratt's brother, Estelle Rogers, passed away Thursday. They (Carl and Jessie) had planned to come home next week, so we are looking forward to their being home again.

Mary Wilson reports that Ruth Winfree, her sister, is coming home for a visit (due to May's hospitalization and recovery from surgery) The last report was that she was to be picked up at the airport Friday evening in So. Bend. It'll be good to see her.

The Dec. issue of Christian Bible Teacher is in. Teachers - be sure to pick up your copy.

Norman Herron
RR #5 Box 15
Lagrange, Indiana 46761

L A G R A N G E

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

December 15, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Services	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

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Some Sermonettes -

- * Sin is not inherited, but it is contagious.

- * Lack of pep is often mistaken for patience.

- * It never pays to use weak thread when mending
your ways-----
- * One way to defend the church is to attend it.

Dec. 23 Skating party at the North Roller Dome, 6:30 to 9 p.m.

GOD HAS NO GRANDCHILDREN

The parallel between the human family and man's spiritual relationship to God is limited to the first generation only. A man is God's son, or he is no kin whatever. There are no second or third generation descendants.

Jesus Christ has spiritual brothers and sisters only. He has no nieces, nephews, or cousins once or twice removed.

The reason for these interesting facts is that, whereas our physical birth is an involuntary event in which we are totally passive, having no voice whatever in the choice of our ancestry, the spiritual (new) birth is a matter of our active and deliberate choice of God and our father.

And this is a choice which each individual in each succeeding generation must make for himself. Thus no man or woman can be saved through the faith and obedience of earthly parents, however godly; nor will our love and prayers on behalf of our offspring suffice to save them, no matter how fervently we yearn for their souls.

We hear the current childish protest; "But mother, I'd rather do it myself!" In religion, this is the only way it can be done. Mother and Dad may teach junior how to obey God; they may motivate him to want to obey God; but they can never obey God for him!

And when God's children's children are born again through gospel obedience, they, too, become God's children - the brothers and sisters of their own fathers and mothers!

In respect of physical kinship this may sound a little confusing, but it keeps one's spiritual pedigree very simple indeed. For as a Christian, your family tree is never longer than two generations: God and You!

---Selected

WE COULD, BUT.....

A man needed a gardener, and got a letter from a man called Smith. This gentleman said, "John Smith has an excellent knowledge of gardening. He can manage a vegetable garden wonderfully, and bring an ornamental garden to perfection." And he went on through the list of what the man could do. As the other gentleman read the letter he said, "That's the very man for me; he can do the very things I want." He got to the bottom of the page, and turned it over and on the other side there were only three words - "but he won't."

There are those who could help make our Bible study program much stronger, but they won't. They prefer to be among those who merely affirm the need of such a program but always for someone else and not for them. Some of them are among the large group who are always "going to get started someday" but that far off day seems never to arrive.

There are many who would make the Sunday night and mid week services better, but they won't. They do not feel that it is necessary for them to attend. To them eating the Lord's Supper is about the only important thing God calls them to do. They would not miss the supper but feel no remorse of consequence if they miss everything else.

There are people who could help convert more souls to Christ, but they won't. They believe the preacher should "preach the gospel to every creature," but have never felt any personal obligation in this work. They are not interested in supporting gospel meetings, or engaging in

any other kind of work that will lead others to Christ. ARE YOU ONE WHO COULD BUT WON'T?

---Selected

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There has been a request made that we interchange the next two Sunday evening services, for this month. So, for this evening we'll have a song service, then next Sunday, one of the men of the congregation will speak.

Requests this past week for food has pointed up our need to replenish our storeroom with food supplies again. Would you please bring a can or two (any items in the beginning will do) with you at least once a week for awhile. After a while we can make suggestions as to what to bring after we have enough of any one item.

By next week, we would like for each member to receive a copy of a budget and plans for the coming year. It's been a good year, but there is need for improvement in much of the Lord's work here. Let's all go into the year 1975 determined to be more faithful to the trust that our Savior has committed unto us.

Two announcements for our young people:

1. A skating party is scheduled at the Roller Dome, north side Ft. Wayne this Monday evening, 6:30 to 9.
2. A new singing group from the Fairlawn congregation, Muncie, Ind. (Touch of Sunshine) will be at Warsaw this Saturday evening at 7 o'clock. They invite our youth to come. Ask brother Herron for more details.

Many who have been away for various reasons will be here for the holidays. We're always glad when they can be with us, and enjoy the fellowships planned for the holiday season.

Norman Herron
RR#5, Box 15
Lagrange, Ind. 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

December 22, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

ELDERS

Dean Hoggatt - LaGrange
Phone 463-3318
Devon Hostetler - Topeka
Phone 703-2142

DEACON

Ferry Miller - LaGrange
Phone 463-3979

Norm Herron, minister
405 South Townline Road
Route #5, Box 15
LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

The world is filled with people whose list of values and life-styles do not make room for ...

Love, prayer, an awareness of judgment, compassion, worship, involvement, selflessness, the care of children, discipline, redemption, a word from the Lord, tolerance, freedom, a ministry to persons, servanthood, a concern for ultimates, conversion of the heart.

Where may one expect to find these priorities if not in the church?

Selected

BEYOND TODAY

I cannot see beyond today!
But I can trust
That He who guides me all the way
Is wise and just.
And He will let no tempest wild
O'erwhelm His child.

I cannot see the far-off land;
But over there,
Built by my Father's loving hand
Are mansions fair.
And God will welcome me when I
His child come home.

I cannot see the realms of space
From star to star;
But this I know, God's wond'rous grace
Can reach as far;
And yet it cares for even me,
Where'er I be.

I may not know the reason why
Of simple things;
But o'er the greatest I can fly
On faith's strong wings,
And live a life of trust and love
In God above.

The best thing to give to your enemy is forgiveness; to an opponent, tolerance; to a friend, your heart; to your child, a good example; to a father, deference; to your mother, conduct that will make her proud of you. to yourself, respect; to all men charity.

--Selected

DID YOU KNOW THAT - - - -

The church of Christ is the same today in origin, name, mission, doctrine and practice as when built by Christ more than 1900 years ago?

That the church of Christ is the oldest church in existence that claims to be Christian? She began in Jerusalem, 33A.D.

Jesus and all of the apostles were members of the church of Christ.

One big difference is the church and other religious bodies is expressed in the principle: "Where the Bible speaks, we speak; where it is silent, we are silent." We seek authority from the scriptures for all that we teach and practice. Others appeal to the Bible for what is forbidden thinking that silence permits liberty. It is this principle that explains why the church of Christ does not foster: titles of distinction (Matt. 23:8), denominational machinery (Eph. 3:21), joining the church of your choice (Acts 2:37), instruments of music in worship (Eph. 5:19), begging money from the world (II Cor. 9:7).

--Selected

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 as 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. As Christians, thank God for Christ and all of the spiritual blessings which come from God. (James 1:17; 2 Cor. 9:15; Eph. 1:3,7). --Selected

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, a presentation of our budget for 1975 will be presented along with a letter concerning our proposal. We urge every member to not only read but give much thought and prayer to the work and needs that are presented. We have grown into a great people who ^{can} ill afford to sit still or mark time. Great things can be done when we work together, and planning ahead, this should be a year when many souls can be reaped for the Lord.

This evening being the last Sunday before the new quarter starts, we would ask that all the teachers be present for a meeting in classroom #7. Try to be there at 5 o'clock sharp.

New Year's eve (Tues. evening) the Hostetlers have invited all the church out to their house for an evening of fellowship and to usher in the New Year. They have ask that each family bring sandwiches and finger foods. There may be plans after the midnight bell. See Bill Oakley!

The Huntington congregation is planning a seven night meeting using preachers in the area. The theme is to be "Power". Brother Herron is to speak Wed. night Jan. 1 on "Power thru Love".

We are happy to have so many students, teachers and visitors here over the holidays. It's a great homecoming. We wish to all a happy holiday season and the best wishes for a new year.

Norman Herron
RR#5, Box 15
Lagrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

December 29, 1974

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M..
Children's Bible Hour	9:30 A. M.
Morning Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:00 P. M.

ELDERS

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Phone 463-3571

HAPPY

WELCOME

TO THE NEW YEAR

THE TRUE CHURCH OF CHRIST:

I Thess. 4:9-12

Exalts Jesus Christ alone
Maintains evangelistic passion
Carries out an educational ideal
Exercises fraternal sympathy
Fosters wholesome social contacts.
Creates a missionary spirit.
Requires a sacrificial life of service.
Suggest full stewardship of life and possession

Zoa Herr

TO Leave denominationalism behind to become a Christian only. This was a lady's decision, and upon it hear her own words:

"For years I have struggled
With a faith I could not see;
Their man made teachings
Didn't bring me closer to Tee
Leaving that faith,
I struggled alone;
Nowhere to go
My sins to atone.
Blowing like the wind,
With daily toil and strife,
I know now by his word
I've been lost for over half of my life.
Now I've been washed
In His precious blood;
Washing my sins away
Like a great, giant flood.
My very soul cries out
With joy to say:
I've become a part
Of God's great family TODAY.
No more endless drifting,
Like sands in the sea;
For my God and His word
Are very close to me
The trumpets of Heaven

CLASSES NEXT QUARTER (Jan.-Mar.)

Since the beginning of our bus program, children have been bussed in for all three of our services. We see a definite need for a children's class on Sunday evening and have asked Bob and Kathy Sowles to take this class. It is thought best to set the class ages from four year olds, up to and including second graders. They will meet in classroom #8.

Another needed class, which brother Herron will be teaching, is a basic doctrine class. He will be contacting ones for this class, and it will meet in his home Sunday morning at 9:30.

There will be a separate class for the high school-age group (grades 9-12) starting Thursday evening Jan. 9. The meeting place and study will be announced later.

VISITATION WORK

We need to re-emphasize the visitation work that could and should be done by the church. Starting Jan. 5 following evening services, we would like for everyone who would be willing to make one call during the week to come to the front of the building and receive a name (we will include names of visitors, absentee members, sick members, and contacts which are gathered from the bus, Herald of Truth and other sources). We request that you contact your assignment at your convenience during the week and report on the back of the card such visit with your comments, before the next Sunday. The co-operation of many members is essential to keep abreast of this important work.

(continued from page 2)

In triumph do sound
For thanks be unto God,
My faith I have found!"