

LaGrange

CHURCH OF CHRIST

ELDERS

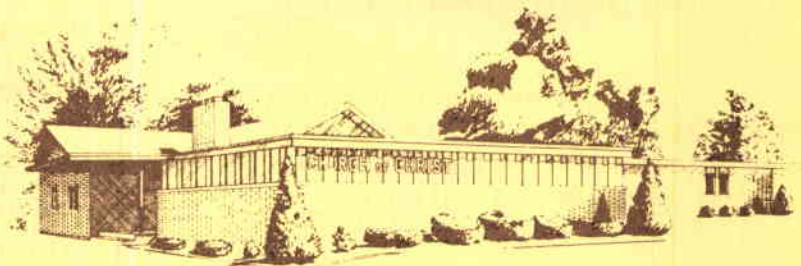
Norman Herron 463-3571
Dean Hoggatt 463-3318
Devon Hostetler 463-3485

DEACONS

Perry Miller 463-3979
Joe Oakely 463-3743
Jim Pieratt 463-2700

EVANGELIST

Norman Herron



R.R. 5 • Box 13 • LaGrange, Indiana 46761

WE INVITE YOU . . . TO STUDY AND WORSHIP WITH US

SUNDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Keenager Program 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
R.R. 5, Box 13
LaGrange, Ind. 46761

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YOU DID IT UNTO ME

"For I was hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in;...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.:

Mt. 25:35, 40

A soldier called his mother from San Francisco Bay, "Mother, I'll be coming home so hear me what I say. I want to bring a buddy, Mom, if you don't mind. He only has one leg, one arm, one eye, needs your love so kind."

The mother told her soldier boy with a harsh and bitter tone; "No, don't bring your buddy here, find him another home. We just don't have a place for him, if it's like you say, we sure don't need a handicap to be here in the way."

Later came a telégram, the soldier boy was dead. He took his life and they found a note and this is what it said; "No, don't bring your buddy here." His mother's words were they, "We sure don't need a handicap to be here in the way."

At last the wheels stopped turning and the mother met the train. She came to get her soldier boy with tears that fell like rain. She stared into the cold sealed box to kiss her son goodbye, and his body bore the marks of war, one leg, one arm, one eye.

A tragic story of a mother that lost a son by first losing her compassion for her fellowman, by losing characteristics of a Christian.

Jesus said, whatever we do to others we in a sense are doing unto him. Go forth this day, and do good to all men, have the love of Christ and the compassion that melts hearts and makes them ready to receive the Gospel.

Robert Morris
Niles, Michigan

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday,	12/27	1/3
Bible Classes	103	74
Morning Worship	121	98
Evening Worship	98	98
Contribution	\$908.16	\$693.73
Wednesday Bible Study	12/23	12/30
	99	108
Thursday "Keenagers"	Cancelled	

BUS ATTENDANCE

Bus #1 Fred Oakley "Snowed out"
 Bus #3 Mike Hall

THOSE TO SERVE

Sunday, January 10, 1982

	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Songs	Dean Hoggatt	Bill Oakley
Lord's Table	James McAlpin	James McAlpin
Helpers	Joe Hughes	Gil Hanson
Helpers	Dale Dorris	Mike Hall
Scripture & Prayer	Jim Lee	Perry Miller
Gospel Lesson	Norm Herron	Norm Herron
Closing Prayer	Bob Sowles	Fred Oakley
Nursery Attendant	Kathy Hughes	

Wednesday, January 13

Songs	Brian Hoggatt	Invitation	Gary Pieratt
Opening Prayer	Bob Sowles	Closing Prayer	Joe Hughes

RESPONSES

Kenny Long came asking for our prayers and making the statement: "I feel I set my sight to low and have said things about people at work and church I shouldn't. I want to start the new year off right. I seek the prayers of the church to help my shortcomings.

Glen Morr requested that his membership be with LaGrange. Glen is a student at Purdue University. His address is: 225 S. Grant West Lafayette, In. 47906 Ph. #: 317-743-1807

WINTER YOUTH RALLY

There is still a need for more overnight housing for the many young people who will be coming to the Winter Youth Rally. If you could provide some room contact Rick Shears.

TEACHERS TRAINING CLASS

All past, present, and future teachers are invited to attend another session of the Teachers Training Class this Friday, Jan. 8 at 7:00 p.m. Lots of good material is being presented each month by the various members of the Education Committee. The class ends at 8:30 with a short break in the middle for refreshments.

TEACHER TRAINING SEMINAR

The Lindberg Rd. church in Anderson, In. is having a Teacher Training Seminar for the area churches on January 29-30. The speaker for the seminar is Nick Young, their minister.

The seminar begins Friday from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. and resumes Saturday from 9:00 a.m. til 3:45 p.m. A workbook is provided to follow the lectures and may be purchased if desired. All those interested in attending these sessions see Norm or Dean.

VISITORS

We welcomed the visit of the following individuals and families for worship last week. Kenny & Kathy Long, Summerville, S.C.; Jeff & Paula Herron, Garden City, Mi.; Ron Todd, Odessa, Tx.; Cindy Miller, Mongo, Warren Billman, LaGrange.

Those who visited Sunday, December 27: Jeff & Sally Mead family, Abilene, Tx.; Carl & Jessie Pieratt, Camdenton, Mo.; Terry Morr, Indianapolis; Ruth Engle and Warren Billman, LaGrange.

HAVE YOU HUGGED ANYBODY TODAY?

"Four hugs a day helps keep the doctor away." Physicians and pain control therapists are advocating the warm, human, non-sexual hug as an "effective way to reduce stress, diminish anger, and foster a feeling of self-worth." Many of us have been conditioned to believe that touching is only for violence or sexual connotations and we have found it difficult to be huggers. But the doctors claim that evidence abounds that hugging is a powerful way to help someone, including oneself, feel wonderful.

Virginia Satir has put it this way: We need four hugs to survive emotionally. We need four hugs to maintain our security. We need a total of twelve hugs to grow emotionally.

Have you hugged anybody today?

Richard Foster
 Duncan, Ok.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 8 Teachers Training Class
- 23-24 LaGrange Winter Youth Rally
- 29-30 Teachers Training Seminar at Lindberg Rd. church, Anderson.
- 31 Annual Report Meeting

APPRECIATION

We wish to thank Vada Powell for volunteering to clean the kitchen each week.

BULLETIN

We would like to have some more help each week in editing and writing the bulletin. If you are interested, see Norm or Mary Ann Johnston.

ILLNESS

There has been a great deal of illness in the church the past few weeks. The old flu bug knows no barriers in age, sex, or size. Eventually he gets us all.

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MILESTONE FOR CAMP INDOGAN

Sometime this year, hopefully by the time of the Associate's Membership Banquet in April, the mortgage on Camp Indogan, obtained when the property was bought in 1959, will be paid off. Wouldn't it be great to have a "mortgage burning" at the banquet with all of its supporters present!

It's a good feeling to know that so many for so long have supported this good work and be able to say, "I've had a part in it". It has truly been a fellowship of love. One that has brought hundreds of Christians together for the common interest of guiding the youth in our area. The very name, Ind-o-gan itself is derived from the tri-states, Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan, which it primarily serves. It's excellent location on Silver Lake, near interstate I-69, the Indiana Toll Road, and just off US 20 makes it easily accessible to the many Christian families north, south, east, and west. It has done immeasurable good in shaping the lives of so many over the ensuing years. In this "pay-off year" we congratulate and rejoice with those who have sacrificed so much toward this Christian youth camp and its continuance.

The camp has always been, and intended to be, non-profit. The purpose has always been to provide the best spiritual environment at the lowest possible cost for the greatest number of young people. This purpose has demanded that we look consistently to Christian supporters to make "ends meet" over the years. As one of the remaining three original members of the board of directors, I recall that most year-end reports gave bleak prospects of getting by through the winter without borrowing money to meet our expenses. Christians buying memberships and heading up fund drives was always a source of encouragement to those who oversaw the needs of the camp.

Being "out from under" the mortgage payment (\$70 mo.) will not drastically change the financial picture of the camp. The needs are still there and even more so as we look to greater demands of better maintenance and health standards. Would some who are reading this consider buying a membership (annual \$25 or life-time \$250 which can be paid at \$25 a year for 10 years)? I have five blank membership cards (Devon also has five) just waiting to be completed and sent in. It's a great investment in the future, affording opportunities for the youth of our area to have spiritual associations which will greatly influence their future. Such investments will pay off richly!

Dean Hoggatt

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday, January 10, 1982

Bible Classes	43
Morning Worship	50
Evening Worship	Cancelled
Contribution	\$385.17

Wednesday Bible Study 1/6 110

Thursday "Keenagers" 1/7 37

BUS ATTENDANCE

Buses were snowed in once again.

THOSE TO SERVE

Sunday, January 17, 1982

	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Songs	Perry Miller	Dean Hoggatt
Lord's Table	Stan Palmer	Stan Palmer
Helpers	Bob Sowles Phil Hostetler	Bob Sowles
Helpers	Bill Oakley Jim Lee	Jim Lee
Scripture & Prayer	Craig Hostetler	Bill Oakley
Gospel Lesson	Norm Herron	Norm Herron
Closing Prayer	James McAlpin	Phil Hostetler

Nursery Attendant Hazel Miller

Wednesday, January 20

Songs	Joe Hughes	Invitation	Stan Palmer
Prayer	James McAlpin	Closing Prayer	Norm Herron

BUSINESS MEETING

There will be a business meeting of all the men Sunday, January 17, following the evening service. The proposed budget for 1982 will be discussed along with the other various aspects of the work.

The women also will be meeting at the same to discuss their work and make assignments for the coming year.

All members are encouraged to attend one of these meetings.

TRANSPORTATION NEED

The church has been informed of a need for drivers to transport a Mrs. Whitley to Ft. Wayne every day for treatment of cancer. The treatments begin Jan. 19, and last for five weeks. There will be some reimbursement for cost of travel. If you can donate a few hours of your time to help a distressed family, please let Lois Oakley or Thelma Hoggatt know.

SICK

Ricky Shears was taken to the LaGrange hospital Friday night for an appendicitis and underwent surgery late that night. All went well and he was able to return home Monday to recuperate.

INJURED

Sister Paula Herron (Hostetler) suffered a broken bone in her foot in a skiing mishap while visiting here for the New Year holiday. She has been fitted with a walking cast which has allowed her to return to work at the New Grace hospital in Detroit.

WITHDRAWAL OF FELLOWSHIP

We regret to inform that the LaGrange church has had to withdraw fellowship from sister Connie Weaver on January 14, 1982.

We pray that she will see the error of her ways and repent and be restored once again to the Lord.

LAGRANGE YOUTH RALLY

The time for our Youth Rally on Jan. 23-24 is rapidly approaching. We are anticipating a good number of young people from the other area congregations.

Two excellent speakers in Jerry Selvidge from South Haven, Mi. and Nick Young from Anderson will be the speakers at this year's rally. The singing group "Autumn, from Michigan Christian College will provide the entertainment. A registration fee of \$3.00 is charged.

Housing is still needed for those who will be spending the night.

SNOW...SNOW...SNOW!

Some are comparing it with the great snow storm of '78. What it lacked in snow, only 14" compared to 41" in '78, it more than made up for in sub zero temperatures of -15° to -22°, and blizzard like winds of 35-40 MPH.

Those members living in the country were snowed-in by drifting snow. Even those in town found it difficult in getting to church due to snow clogged roads and disabled cars. In spite of all this, 50 brave souls were able to assemble together for worship. However, Sunday evening services had to be called off after the police issued a snow emergency which prohibits all driving except in case of an emergency.

Although most of the snow has been cleared at this time driving is still hazzardous and we urge all to be careful.

THE WORLD'S BIBLE

Christ has no hands but our hands
 To do His work today,
 He has no feet but our feet
 To lead men in His way,
 He has no tongue but our tongues
 To tell men how He died,
 He has no help but our help
 To bring them to His side.
 We are the only Bible
 The careless world will read,
 We are the sinner's gospel,
 We are the scoffer's creed,
 We are the Lord's last message
 Given in deed and word.
 What if the type is crooked?
 What if the print is blurred?
 What if our hands are busy
 With other work than His?
 What if our feet are walking
 Where sin's allurements is?
 What if our tongues are speaking
 Of things His lips would spurn?
 How can we hope to help Him
 And hasten His return?
 --Annie Johnson Flint

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THE "PEOPLE BUSINESS"

"No one cares how much you know, until they know how much you care." Good proverb and good practice! We are often long on knowledge, and short on compassion; correct on doctrine, offensive in nature! We would do well to remember Jesus did not die for buses, budgets and buildings; nor for carpets, cooling and committees. He died for people!

Here are some common sense rules in working with people:

- (1) Speak to people! There is nothing as nice as cheerful words of greeting.
- (2) Smile at people! Smiling is the international language. It takes 72 muscles to frown; but only 14 to smile. And it pays dividends!
- (3) Call people by name! The sweetest music to anyone's ears is the sound of their own name! "Greet friends by name" (3 John v. 14)
- (4) Be friendly and helpful! The best way to have friends is to be a friend. Jesus was called the "friend of sinners" (Lk. 7:34)
- (5) Don't put strings on your love! None of this, "I'll love you 'IF'." Jesus loves "because" and "in spite of."
- (6) Be genuinely interested in people! It's easy to treat people as if they are really worth something, if you remember, THEY ARE!
- (7) Be generous with praise! You can literally "praise people into greatness" (works with kids, marriages, and church members).
- (8) Be considerate of the feelings of others! The Golden Rule applies "do to others as you would have them do to you" (Lk. 6:31)
- (9) Be thoughtful of other's opinions! There may be three sides of controversy: (1) yours, (2) the other fellow's, and (3) the right side!
- (10) Be alert to give service! The "servants"; the "givers" are the ones on the way to "greatness" (Mt. 20:26). Jesus came to serve (Mt. 20:28).

In our efforts to be doctrinally right, organizationally strong, and ministry rich, let's not forget that we work with "people"; the most precious commodity in the world. HANDLE WITH CARE....HANDLE WITH PRAYER!

-Marvin Phillips

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday, January 17, 1982	
Bible Classes	24
Morning Worship	25
Evening Worship	33
Contribution	\$464.35
Wednesday Bible Study 1/13	69
Thursday "Keenagers" 1/14	Cancelled

BUS ATTENDANCE

Buses were snowed in once again.

THOSE TO SERVE

Sunday, January 24, 1982

	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Songs	Craig Hostetler	Mark Craig
Lord's Table	Jim Lee	Jim Lee
Helpers	Fred Oakley	Perry Miller
Helpers	Brian Leslie	Enos Miller
Scripture & Prayer	Joe Oakley	Stan Palmer
Gospel Lesson	Jerry Selvidge	Norm Herron
Closing Prayer	Stan Palmer	Joe Hughes
Nursery Attendant	Mary Ann Johnston	

Wednesday, January 27

Songs	Bob Sowles	Invitation	Fred Oakley
Opening Prayer	Phil Hostetler	Closing Prayer	Dean Hoggatt

RESPONSE

Mary Ann Johnston came forward Sunday to ask for prayers for strength in her life. We commend Mary Ann for her faithfulness and desire to be pleasing to the Lord.

BUSINESS MEETINGS

The scheduled business meetings for Sunday, January 17 were postponed one week due to the weather. They have been rescheduled for this Sunday January 24 immediately after the evening service.

GOOD TIME FOR BCC

The past three weeks, weather reporters say, have brought us some of the most severe weather of this century. Schools have been closed, snow emergencies have been in effect, and conditions have been such that makes staying at home the desirable thing to do. We do hope that the worst is over and the weather will moderate, but don't count on it. Cold winter warnings are still in the forecast.

Wouldn't it be a good time to start a Bible Correspondence Course while we have more time at home? We have several series available; One is a 8 lesson course by John Hurt; another is a 30 lesson series entitled "Studies In The Bible"; another is "Foundations of Faith" (30 lessons); and for more advanced students is a 10 lesson course entitled "The Christian Way". Also available is an interesting 5 lesson "Visualized Bible Study Series" with filmstrips and cassette tapes (projector and cassette player available), plus study booklets. Each of these Bible Courses are free for the asking and can be studied in the privacy of your home.

Some are presently enrolled in a BCC study. We would be happy if many more would begin such a study and especially those that have never taken one. It's a profitable way to spend an evening.

POT LUCK DINNER SUNDAY JANUARY 24

We invite all to stay for dinner and meet the youth from neighboring congregations. Please bring your own table service, enough food for your family plus extra for our guests. The meat will be furnished, please see Thelma, Ellen or Marilyn for your donation towards the meat. Zone 2 is scheduled for clean up.

"Some people have only 3 occasions for attending church - when they are HATCHED, MATCHED and DISPATCHED".

LOVING THE UNLOVABLE

The love of God is wonderful, amazing, and surprising when we consider the extent to which he loved us and the condition of our lovableness. "Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" Romans 5;7,8.

In contrast, someone said people are like blotters: They soak it all in but get it all backwards. We respond to a lot of stimuli in our lives that sometimes causes us to get things rather mixed up. Reuel Howe said, "God created people to be loved and things to be used." But how many of our problems are the result of getting this backwards--loving things and using people?

If God had done us the way we do each other, we wouldn't have a chance at his love. No, sir. People have to prove themselves to us before we'll love them; and then there's no money-back guarantee on that! So, we still get it all backwards, and continue to suffer the same old consequences.

-Dan Woodroff

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 23-24 Winter Youth Rally. Speakers are Jerry Selvidge and Nick Young. Singing group "Autumn" from MCC. Pot-luck dinner Sunday afternoon.
- 25 Area Skating Party at Roller Dome in Ft. Wayne. Proceeds go to Camp Indogan. Leave from church bldg. at 5:30 PM.
- 29-30 Teacher Training Seminar at Lindberg Rd church in Anderson. Nick Young speaker.
- 31 Annual Report Meeting at the evening service. All members are urged to attend. Monthly fellowship afterwards.

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Dean Hoggatt
204 S. Poplar St.
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A COMMITMENT TO GOD

Now that 1982 has turned the corner and come into view, let's take a real good look at it.

Likely, not one of us feels completely satisfied with our spiritual progress last year. Maybe for some, we don't care - at least care enough to do something about it. We ought to though! If there is anything that defines a Christian in God's eyes it would be a commitment to study, grow, love and bear fruit for Him. Please reread 2 Tim. 2:15, 2 Pet. 3:18, Jn. 13:35 and Jn. 15:8. To "grow in the grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" is not an option - it is a command. The elders have discussed making an all out effort to enroll every member in our Bible class program, since they do have the responsibility of watching "for your souls" Heb. 13:17. We are giving considerable attention to training our teachers by regular teacher training meetings as well as improve all areas of our educational program, but even all this is without profit to the many members who do not avail themselves of the Bible classes. If you are a member here and have not started attending a Bible class, why not make a commitment to God that you will begin for the new year. Christian growth depends on study.

The education committee has suggested that the adults be allowed to choose which adult class they would prefer to be in and eliminate for the time being the previous method of class division by age. The older class has been using a workbook which might appeal to some of the younger adults or vice versa, some of the older adults might prefer the younger adult studies with material being given in each class session. At any rate we want to make things profitable for every member. The building is warm, the teachers are prepared, and the "bread of life" is being served. As a request from your elders, as a great benefit to your spiritual health, and as an encouragement to those who have gone to the effort to "set the table", please see that you and yours are present in the Bible class assemblies on a regular basis.

-Dean Hoggatt

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday, January 24, 1982		
Bible Classes		52
Morning Worship		57
Evening Worship		77
Contribution		\$1059.71
Wednesday Bible Study	1/20	101
Thursday "Keenagers"	1/21	36

BUS ATTENDANCE

"Snow emergency in effect in county"

THOSE TO SERVE

Sunday, January 31, 1982

	<u>Morning</u>	<u>Evening</u>
Songs	Bill Oakley	Devon Hostetler
Lord's Table	Mark Craig	Mark Craig
Helpers	Joe Oakley	James McAlpin
Helpers	Gale Mapes	Brian Hoggatt
Scripture & Prayer	Joe Hughes	Bob Sowles
Gospel Lesson	Norm Herron	Annual Report
Closing Prayer	Jim Lee	Bill Oakley
Nursery Attendant	Kathy Sowles	

Wednesday, February 3

Songs	Fred Oakley	Invitation	Perry Miller
Opening Prayer	Stan Palmer	Closing Prayer	Devon Hostetler

CHURCHES REUNITED

We received word last week that the two congregations in Angola have resolved their differences and determined to reunite once again.

Plans are to have a two day meeting on Feb. 14 - 15 with Jerry Selvidge of South Haven, Mi. doing the preaching. A great deal of credit is given to brother Selvidge for correcting some attitudes and feelings while holding a meeting in Angola last fall. The merger will be consummated sometime in March. We commend the brethren for working out their differences in a Christ-like spirit so that the body of Christ could be reunited once again.

ANNUAL REPORT

Weather permitting, we will have our Annual Report meeting this Sunday evening. Come and hear the plans for '82. Several brethren will be exhorting us from God's word regarding the various programs of the church. Then remain afterwards for an evening of food and fellowship.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Little Shawn Courtney, nephew of Mike and Pat Hall, was readmitted to Parkview Memorial hospital in Ft. Wayne. The doctors have discovered that the tumor in Shawn's head has started to grow again. They feel that surgery is the only option they have but don't offer much hope for him. The family has asked that we keep little Shawn in our prayers. Surgery is scheduled for Wednesday morning.

The Courtney family is in need of some financial assistance at this time. Efforts are underway in the community to raise funds thru donations and the sale of used clothing and other articles. Individuals who wish to help should contact Joann Gage (562-2531) or take what items you wish to contribute to the basement of Lil Jo's Shop on Detroit St. Volunteers are also needed to help sort clothing and to wait on customers.

YOUTH RALLY POSTPONED

After much deliberation, it was decided to postpone the Winter Youth Rally due to the national weather alert. In many areas, some of the major highways and most secondary roads were closed by winds and drifting snow. The Rally has been rescheduled for Feb. 27 - 28. We are fortunate that both Jerry Selvidge and Nick Young will be able to return at that time. We trust that the weather will be more cooperative with us then.

"People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care."

BULLETIN CHANGE

Beginning next month the bulletin will be printed bi-monthly. This is due in part to a significant hike in the postal rate for bulk mailing (almost 50% increase)

We feel that two bulletins a month will still enable the congregation to be kept informed of the work and also news relating to the members. Plans are to include each month a copy of the schedule of those who serve for the worship also a calendar which will note the months activities.

We appreciate the many comments of those who enjoy and appreciate receiving our bulletin. We hope that this will continue to allow us to keep in touch with one another.

HELP NEEDED

The brother of Bob Sowles, who lives in Hebrew, In., suffered the loss of their trailer in an early morning fire this past Monday. The fire was caused by frozen water pipes which after being thawed caused the water pump to explode and burn. The family lost all their possessions. They have an immediate need for clothing, bedding and small appliances. The clothing sizes are a womens size 18 and mens shirts large and extra large and pants with 31, 40 and 43 inch waist. The family is presently living with friends and relatives.

If you can help with some of these items bring them to the building or contact Bob Sowles, who plans to go there this weekend.

WHY PEOPLE GO TO CHURCH

- Some go to church to take a walk;
- Some go to church to laugh and talk;
- Some go there to meet a friend;
- Some go there their time to spend;
- Some go there to meet a lover;
- Some go there a fault to cover;
- Some go there for speculation;
- Some go there for observation;
- Some go there to doze and nod;
- The wise go there to worship God.

Gospel Herald

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I DON'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE

*"I remember the devotion of your youth,
your love as a bride" (Jeremiah 2:2).*

Love isn't static. It grows or dwindles. When a person has been married 50 years his love is not the same as it was when he first said, "I do." It's stronger - or weaker.

As a couple repeats the vows, they have happy visions of what is to be. Everything will be perfect. They will share rich experiences, gladly make sacrifices for each other, serve each others needs in total unselfishness.

And that may happen. When it does, love grows. Love which has been matured by a half-century of selfgiving is much more beautiful than "first love".

On the other hand, if selfishness elbows its way into the relationship, love will begin to wither. If one of the partners comes to resent the "chores" to be performed for the other, love will grow sick - may even die.

When God rescued Israel from Egypt they loved him like a new bride loves her husband. He was the center of their lives, and they were faithful to him. But after awhile that love began to cool - and soon they committed spiritual adultery by worshipping heathen gods. Their glow for God was gone.

Remember when you gave your life to God? It was "until death do us part". Your love for him today is not the same as it was then. It's stronger - or weaker. The world is such a flirt. Many are drawn into an adulterous relationship with the world, wrecking their marriage to God.

Be totally honest. Do you love Him more - or less - today than the day you said, "I do"?

-Joe R. Barnett

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday, January 31, 1982	
Bible Classes	42
Morning Worship	44
Evening Worship	Cancelled
Contribution	\$338.87

Wednesday Bible Study 1/27 101

Thursday "Keenagers" 1/28 34

BUS ATTENDANCE

Buses not able to pick up children

ANNUAL REPORT MEETING

Due to a severe snow storm which caused the cancellation of our evening services, the Annual Report Meeting was postponed once again. The meeting has been re-scheduled for Sunday evening Feb. 14. Again there will be a fellowship immediately following the meeting.

We hope the weather will be more cooperative this time so that we can have a large turn out of members. The theme is "A Common Love" which is the same one chosen by the young people for their Youth Rally. Let's be sure to encourage each other not to miss this meeting. With the Lords help, we can make 1982 one of the most significant years ever for the Lord's church in LaGrange.

FREED-HARDEMAN LECTURES

Following the Sunday morning service, Marilyn and I will be leaving for Henderson, Tenn. to attend the 46th Annual Bible Lectureship at the Freed-Hardeman College. The theme for this year's lectureship is "World Evangelism At Home And Abroad". I will be speaking Tuesday afternoon Feb. 9 at 2:30 p.m. on our "Keenager" program. It has been nearly four years since we first began our work among the senior citizens of LaGrange. Many lives have been touched as well over 200 different individuals have attended our meetings. Many others have been brought closer to God as a result of the weekly Bible Study. In most cases only God knows the full results from these four years of meetings.

Ironically, it was Coleman Crocker, who serves as public relations for Freed-Hardeman College, who was the guest speaker at our first Keenager meeting. Coleman was holding a Gospel Meeting in which we used this occasion to launch our program. There were 22 present at the first meeting to see the colored slides of the Holy Land which he showed. We have been informed by the college that we will be staying at the Crocker's home. It will be good to renew acquaintances with him once again. We appreciate the church for allowing us to fulfill this speaking appointment. Pray that much good will result from these lectures.

-Norm

NEWS

Jamie and Sue McAlpin are visiting in Florida with Jamie's brother. We wish them a safe journey there and back.

The Hoggatt's made a hurried trip to Michigan to visit with Kent & Debbie.

THINGS TO DO IN EIGHTY TWO...

1. Improve YOUR attendance to Services and Bible Studies.
2. Exhort YOUR children to be more faithful to Christ by YOUR word and example.
3. Encourage YOUR spouse to greater service for Christ by YOUR word, example and Prayer.
4. Strengthen the Brethern in their duties to Christ by faithfully undertaking the duties assigned to YOU.
5. Faithfully contribute to the treasury that which YOU committed unto GOD.
6. Invite YOUR friends to come out to be with YOU in worship to GOD.
7. Let Christ be seen in YOUR speech and life by those roundabout.

PERHAPS if YOU started to practice the above...eighty two..would not only be a good year for others but would be a better one for YOU personally.

The above seven points are NOT asking the impossible but just that which is reasonable....What do YOU think?

WHY DON'T you try it this year and give others a boost in the way of encouragement.

-Via W. Lafayette, Oh.

SINGING AT NURSING HOMES

Being the first Sunday of the month, we will be singing at the local area nursing homes. If you're wondering what this involves - we meet at 4:30 p.m. at Millers Manor, the staff has assembled several of the residents in the dining hall. Requests for favorite songs are encouraged and we blend our voices together in praise unto God. After about 25 minutes, we conclude with a prayer and then spend some time visiting with the residents. The same thing is repeated at LaGrange home at 5:15 p.m. Now that you know what it is all about, why don't you come and join us. You won't regret it once you've done it.

THE BULLETIN

As announced last week the bulletin has been changed from a weekly to a bi-monthly publication.

The bulletin will no longer have a schedule of "Those to Serve", but in its place have a monthly schedule insert. There is also included a calendar of the month's activities to keep you posted on the latest happenings.

We encourage you to phone the church office by Tuesday of the week of publication to report any news for the bulletin.

Again we wish to thank Mary Ann Johnston for typing the bulletin each week, Diane Martin and Midge Hughes for folding and addressing them, and Dean for seeing that they get to the post office for mailing.

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God"
(1 Jn. 4:7)

LaGrange

CHURCH OF CHRIST

ELDERS

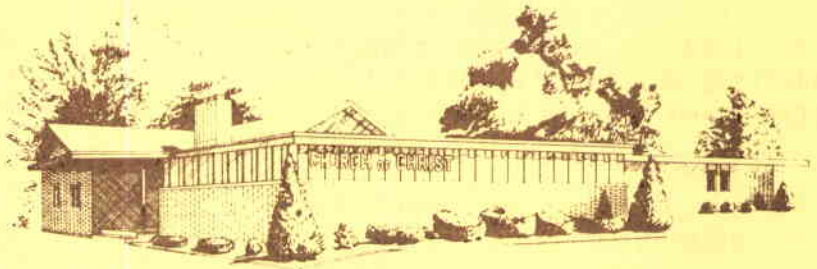
Norman Herron 463-3571
Dean Hoggatt 463-3318
Devon Hostetter 463-3485

DEACONS

Perry Miller 463-3979
Joe Oakely 463-3743
Jim Pieratt 463-2700

EVANGELIST

Norman Herron



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WE INVITE YOU ... TO STUDY AND WORSHIP WITH US

SUNDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Keenager Program 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
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LaGrange, Ind. 46761

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Dean Hoggatt
204 S. Poplar St.
LaGrange, In. 46761

EXCUSES, EXCUSES.

*"And they all with one consent
began to make excuse..." Lk. 24:18*

Read Luke 14:15-24. Three rejected the invitation to a great banquet - one had bought land, one had purchased oxen, and the third had gotten married. With one consent they made excuses. Jesus knew man; He exposed the sins of man. In another situation a potential disciple wished first to bury his father (Mt. 8). Jesus exposed the "Tyranny of the Urgent." The urgent overruled the important! Every day the urgent crowds out the vital. Here Jesus exposes:

(1) *Tyranny of Things.* The land, the farm, the business. A great servant but a bad master. Many serve God better poor. Your writer has watched many helplessly as they were tyrannized by things. They have everything but the real thing. We gain the whole world only to ruin our life.

(2) *Tyranny of Trivia.* To a "horse trader" the idea of buying without looking is silly! One lady explained why she couldn't attend worship, "I live too close to ride and too far to walk." Most of our excuses are ridiculous! Trinkets, toys, foolishness tyrannize too many of us.

(3) *Tyranny of Family.* This is deceitful. We need the family. The family must not be sacrificed for neurotic Church activities. However - God is in charge. He comes first (Luke 14). Putting God first is the greatest blessing a family has! The family must know that God has priority.

-Charles Hodge

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday,	2/7	2/14
Bible Classes	121	120
Morning Worship	124	140
Evening Worship	60	?
Contribution	\$1,515.75	\$1,143.00
	2/3	2/10
Wednesday Bible Study	44	84
	2/4	2/11
Thursday "Keenagers"	32	33

BUS ATTENDANCE

Buses not able to run due to weather conditions.

THE WRONG CHURCH

A minister was approached by a man who expressed a desire to become a member of the church. The man said, however, that he was rather tired. "I don't want to be called on for any service, such as visitation or teaching in the Bible School. I would like to be spared from anything that would take my time. Then, too, don't expect me to worship too often. And when I do attend, my giving will be small, as I have other payments to make each month."

The minister thought for a moment and replied, "I believe you are at the wrong church. The church you are looking for is three blocks down the street."

He followed the preacher's directions and soon came to an old abandoned, boarded-up church building. It was a dead church, out of business, as a result of too many members like this man wanted to be.

The church without active members is a dead church, and the kind of religion that doesn't cost anything in time and money is a dead religion.

-Selected

LECTURESHIP REFLECTIONS

Enriching, enlightening, inspirational, these are some of the words that describe the Freed-Hardeman Lectureship in Tenn.

We arrived late Monday afternoon amid a downpour of rain. The first item of business was to buy umbrellas before we drowned. Marilyn remarked that she would rather it snowed so our feet wouldn't get so wet. You guessed it, next morning it was snowing! The weather remained cold but we didn't mind it as we were kept busy walking and driving to the different lectures.

The various classes were very informative and helpful. Tuesday afternoon I spoke on the work of Evangelism Among The Retirees, and especially as it relates to our Keenager program. The talk was well received by those in attendance.

One of the highlights of the trip was our stay at the home of Coleman and Jerric Crocker. They were most hospital and made us feel like one of the family.

Friday morning we left during a freezing rain which turned into sleet in Kentucky and limited our speed to 30 mph. A lot of cars slid off the road because they wouldn't reduce their speed. Saturday morning we drove into a dense fog in Ft. Wayne and had to creep the rest of the way home. It's good to be back home again and we appreciated the many prayers and concern for our safe return

Norm & Marilyn

TOO NOISY!

Once again it has been brought to our attention about the excessive noise in the rear of the auditorium. This is caused for the most part by the young people who sit there.

We would like to urge all parents to have their teenagers sit with them or close by where they can be observed.

The back seats should be reserved for parents with infants and also to accommodate visitors or those arriving late.

Also during these severe weather storms when our attendance is down we should all try to sit more to the front of the auditorium. This would help to improve our worship and encourage those who take the lead in our services.

Parents and young people - we need your help in correcting this problem.

ZONES

The new zones for 1982 were revealed at the Annual Report Meeting last Sunday night. Already Zone IV has planned their first meeting for Friday, March 5. We encourage the other zones to schedule a meeting as soon as possible.

We are also asking each zone to make up a telephone alert system in which each member can make one or two phone calls and in a few minutes the entire church can be informed regarding some urgent matter.

Most of us feel that the zones were an excellent method of getting better acquainted with each other and promoting more fellowship among the body of Christ.

YOUTH RALLY

The long awaited Youth Rally is only a week away. Due to a conflict in scheduling, the Huntington church youth have agreed to combine their Youth Rally with ours. This will add to more speakers to the program and no doubt increase the attendance.

We are urging the members here to open their homes to many of these young people who will be needing housing for Saturday night.

Our young people have worked hard to make this year's rally the best ever. Lets give them our support and whatever assistance they might be needing.

SICK

Sister Jean Bowen had minor surgery this past week. She is now home and feeling much better.

Sister Sharon Simpson is in Memorial Hospital in South Bend. She was to have surgery Wednesday at 3:30 PM. She is to remain in the hospital for a week's recovery.

Lets remember to keep these in our prayers, cards, and visits.

AREA SKATING

The monthly Area Skating Party will be Monday, February 22 at the RollerDome in Ft. Wayne. All those desiring to go should meet at the church building at 5:00 PM. For more information contact Craig Hostetler 463-3485.

"It's never right to do wrong, and it's never wrong to do right."

LaGrange

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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FOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE QUESTIONABLE

I have a shirt that has given me a lot trouble. It's comfortable, fits well, and I like the white-on-white pattern. But it always looks dirty. My wife asked the laundry to do an especially careful job on it last time. It's still dingy.

I don't like the uneasy feeling I have when I wear it - you know, that "keep your coat on" feeling. I really don't know if it's dirty or not - but its whiteness is suspect to say the least. So, I've made a decision - I'm not going to wear it anymore.

Maybe you're considering some questionable activity. You could squeak by without directly violating a plain scripture. That's not good enough. God wants us to live so that no one can even raise a question about our commitment to Him.

A couple of fine teenagers asked my advice about their involvement in a certain activity. I encouraged them to ask the following four questions about any activity that is questionable:

1. Will I need to keep it a secret? Things we need to hide are usually wrong.
2. Where will it lead me? It may seem harmless and may be harmless, but if it's moving you in the wrong direction it should be avoided.
3. Does it present your best self? Shakespeare's advice is good: "To thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man."
4. What would the person I most admire do if he were in my place? For the Christian that ultimately means, "What would Jesus do?"

"you yourselves are . . . known and read by all men". (2 Cor. 3:2)

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday	2/21	2/28
Bible Classes	122	131
Morning Worship	137	176
Evening Worship	98	105
Contribution	\$1060.30	\$1125.50
	2/17	2/24
Wednesday Bible Study	80	89
	2/18	2/25
Thursday "Keenagers"	33	38

BUS ATTENDANCE

Bus #3 Fred Oakley "Snow" 40

APPRECIATION

After a lot of planning and hard work the youth of Huntington and LaGrange combined their efforts for a successful turnout to last week's youth rally.

Much of the success can be credited to speakers Nick Young, Keith Hatcher, and Jerry Selvidge who encouraged and enthused the 150 people that attended. Thanks should also be given to all who helped make the rally run smoothly, especially to Craig Hostetler and Sue Morr for all their support and to all of the women who helped with the registration and supper. Everyone's help and support for this event was greatly appreciated.

LaGrange Youth

We wish to express our appreciation for all the ladies for the wonderful baby shower and all the nice gifts for the baby. Also, a special thanks to Diane Martin and Janet DePriest for the beautiful cake and making all the necessary arrangements. Thanks again.

Pat Hall

GIVING

It appears that when most everyone is here the budget is easily met. However, during the month of January poor weather conditions forced many to stay home and likewise so did your contribution. This is understandable.

No doubt some even lost some time at work which would affect your earnings. But simply because we miss attending church doesn't mean that we miss our giving. The faithful steward will double up on his or her giving the next week. Not to do so would rob God of His rightful portion.

As of now, we have a \$1,564.00 deficit in our budget. The bills are running higher than expected so it is imperative that everyone do their part in regards to our giving. Those who are still behind in their giving need to catch up as soon as possible so we can erase this deficit before the end of this month.

LIBRARY

A set of the Gospel Advocate commentaries was recently added to our ever growing library. More books are to be purchased in the near future. It is hoped that our library will be operational very shortly. If you wish to contribute towards the purchase of more books see Norm.

THE OLD NATURE IS A BULLY

Rom. 7:18-20

When a man is saved, his new nature is a helpless infant. Justified, but still a baby. As the believer matures, the new "I" gets stronger and stronger. There's no SPEED LIMIT on Christian growth. Some Christians grow very fast, others grow slower in an entire lifetime. As the new man grows the believer gets stronger and stronger. He finds the bully winning fewer and fewer battles. In time, the tables turn and the believer's victories outnumber his defeats. At first, a true Christian is shocked by the amount of sin in his life. He hates it. If he means business for Jesus, he will dedicate himself to putting muscle on that new man as fast as he can.

--Pat lee

PHONE-FOR-CHILDREN

Beginning Sunday March 7-25, the annual Shults-Lewis Phone-for-Children campaign will begin. Volunteers from 9 congregations in 3 states will be calling and asking you to contribute towards the home. They are asking for a monthly commitment of \$10 or more for 12 months or a one time gift of \$35 to be sent in March, April, or May.

We hope that many can respond favorably to this good work. However, the church already supports the home on a regular monthly basis which comes from your weekly contribution.

GOSPEL SINGING

Coming soon is the 6th Annual Northern Indiana Gospel Singing on March 27, at the Huntington North High School Auditorium. This year's Singing will feature The Harmony Four, Charleston, W.Va. The Silvertones, Clawson, Mi., The Lovelights, Kenova, W.Va., and The Joyful Sound, Rockford, Il. Be 1 of 600 for an evening of spiritual fellowship for all the area churches.

JUNIOR YOUTH RALLY

The Reed Rd. church in Ft. Wayne is having a Junior Youth Rally for students in grades 3-6, March 20, from 9:30- 4:00. The program will consist of puppets, films, classes, and entertainment.

LADIES INSPIRATION DAY

The Lindburg Rd. church in Anderson is hosting their 3rd Annual Ladies Inspiration Day on March 27. The theme is "Free to Be One--Together". Speakers include Jeanie Brock, Barb Eaker, Jan Hazel, and Debbie Young. Approximately 600-800 ladies from 4 states have attended the previous two efforts.

RESPONSE

Bro. Fred Oakley responded Sunday morning and stated that he wanted to rededicate his life to the Lord. God bless our brother in this commitment.

SUNDAY TV PROGRAM

"The Amazing Grace" program can be seen on Channel 21, Ft. Wayne at 7:30 every Sunday morning. Why not invite your friends to watch it.

LaGrange

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ELDERS

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THURSDAY

Keenager Program 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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VOL. 17

March 21, 1982

NO. 8

FAITH IS THE VICTORY

Have you felt licked lately? You know the signs: depression, inferiority and melancholy. "It's impossible!"; "What's the use?"; and "I'm a dead man," are famous quotes from the defeated life.

Some of you reading this article may have exclaimed lately, "It's so hard to believe! When I hoped for good things or when I thought I was on the threshold of a better life, the bottom fell out. Now, it's so very hard to trust - to believe in God, yourself or others."

To such an anemic life, Jesus declares, "If thou canst believe, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO HIM THAT BELIEVETH." Faith is the victory that overcomes the world. (1 John 5:4) Simple, trusting faith in Christ and, consequently, in yourself will move mountains, unlock padlocked doors, overcome the world. Faith is the "shazam" that will turn your night to day and bring order out of the chaos of your life.

Just for today, place yourself in God's hands. Sit down in quietude and think upon God. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength" (Isiah 40:31); "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee" (Isaiah 26:3); and "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:6). There we have it. Get quiet and wait. Saturate your soul with thoughts about the Lord and you will begin to see the way out. Strength, peace and guidance will be ours.

I challenge you, secondly, to formulate a mental picture of yourself succeeding. Faith in your heart will produce fruit in your hand. Creative faith in yourself through a positive pattern of thinking (Phil. 3:13-14; 4:13) will lift you to a new sense of self-respect and power. William James said, "In any project, the one important factor is your belief. Without belief there can be no successful outcome. That is fundamental."

The secret to spiritual power, therefore, first lies outside ourselves. Seek God today through an open Bible, a bended knee and a helping hand. Daily let us exclaim, "Lord, I believe; help mine unbelief." (Mark 9:24)

--Harold G. Taylor

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday	3/7	3/14
Bible Classes	139	115
Morning Worship	173	162
Evening Worship	?	?
Contribution	\$1077.32	\$1114.69
	3/5	3/10
Wednesday Bible Study	81	95
	3/4	3/11
Thursday "Keenagers"	cancelled	38
<u>BUS ATTENDANCE</u>		
Bus #3 Fred Oakley	34	26

LADIES

You are invited to the 3rd annual Ladies Inspiration Day, Sat. March 27, from 9:00-3:00 PM at the Lindberg Rd. church in Anderson. You will be lifted up and inspired as you listen to Jeanie Brock, Barbara Eaker, Jan Hazel, and Debbie Young speak on the theme "Free to be One Together". A salad luncheon will be served. Those interested in going should see Marilyn Herron.

GOSPEL MEETING

The Steuben County Church of Christ in Angola is holding a Gospel Meeting on March 28-31. The speaker will be Jim Chamblee of Toledo, Ohio who will speak on "Maturity in Christ". Sunday services will be at 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM, and weekdays at 7:00 PM. Lets support this endeavor with our prayers and attendance at the meeting.

GOOD NEWS

The church in Columbia City has moved into their new building. They held their first service there on Sunday, February 21. If all goes as planned, they hope to have an open house in the first part of May. We rejoice with our sister congregation in their progress in the work. The new building is located west of town on corner of business 30 and Lincoln Way.

BRIDAL SHOWER

A Linen Bridal Shower is being given for Nancy Hart on Friday, March 26, at 7:00 PM at the church building. The shower is being given by Fran Mack and Marilyn Herron. All ladies and young girls are invited.

AMAZING GRACE BIBLE CLASS

We recently received a letter from a viewer in Continental, Oh. of the Amazing Grace Bible Class. They wrote, "My husband and I listen to your broadcast every Sunday and receive a blessing from it." Signed, Leonard & Mary Ellen. This tells us that the show is having some impact on the area.

We are still in need of more contributions toward this good work. If you could help, no matter how little, this program can be kept on the air. The TV show reaches a very large viewing audience and is relatively inexpensive when compared to most programs on a major network. See Norm if you care to help.

LIBRARY

The book "Handbook of Denominations" was recently donated to the church library.

ZONE MEETINGS

The newly formed zones got off to a good start this month. Three have already had their first meeting and the other zone is scheduled to meet Friday, March 26. Attendance was good for the first meeting and will get better once the weather has improved.

The zones are so we can get to know one another better. It is surprising to learn that we can attend services for several years together and yet not really know very much about each other. Knowing makes the caring much easier. Lets get to know each other. Attend your next zone meeting.

SICK

Clayton Langston entered the LaGrange hospital last week for congestion in his chest. His condition has taken a change for the worse and he is now in the intensive care unit for a possible heart attack. He is not to have visitors at this time. A card and prayer at this time would be greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU

We wish to thank everyone for the bridal shower and the many lovely gifts. We especially want to thank Jan DePriest and Diane Hostetler for making the cake and the arrangements.

Diane and Dave

INVITATION

*Because you have shared in their lives
by your friendship and love
you are invited to share with our children*

Diane

and

David Allen

*The day they exchange marriage vows
and begin their new life together
on Saturday, the twentieth of March
at two-thirty*

Church of Christ

LaGrange, Indiana

Mr. and Mrs. Millard Hughes

and

Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Kimpel

ROAD SIGN

The lighting has been finally installed on the sign on US 20. The lights are set on a timer and will be on from 6-10 PM each evening. The lights are a special type that make them efficient to operate. We are grateful to all who helped on this project.

FISHERS OF MEN

The Fishers of Men class which will be taught by Darrell O'Rourke will begin Monday, April 12. There is room for 12-14 new students and 20-22 who have taken the course before. The course has been continually upgraded and will be beneficial to both new and old students. See Norm if you wish to enroll for this years class.

*"Spiritual investments always bring
Heavenly interest".*