

The Anchor



The Great Lakes Restoration Branches Magazine/Newsletter

Vol. 4 - 13

Issue 78

Spring 2012



News From Around the Region

Algonac-Atlanta-Dowagiac-Eckerman-Garden City-Lake Mission-Lima-Oakwood
Otter Lake-Port Huron-Sanilac-St. Johns



“By faith all things are fulfilled: Wherefore, whoso believeth in God might with surety hope for a better world, yea, even a place at the right hand of God which hope cometh of faith maketh an Anchor to the souls of men, which would make them sure and steadfast, always abounding in good works, being led to glorify God.” Ether 5:3b-4

Editor: Jim Bradley – Algonac Branch – 1-586-752-5965 or email at zionswatchman@sbcglobal.net

Algonac Branch By: Val Bradley

**“The work of preparation and the perfection of my Saints go forward slowly, and Zionic conditions are no further away nor any closer than the Spiritual condition of my people justifies.”
(D&C 140:5c)**

In March, Elder Jim Bradley did a 3-week series entitled “Spiritual Preparation for the Tribulation.” He spoke about the need to prepare spiritually in order to face the hardships that will befall us and he gave us an outline of things we can do. He also stated that it was essential to prepare spiritually and temporally at the

same time. They must go hand in hand. We thank him for all the time and effort he put into this and we realize this is just the first step! This will be followed up with a presentation on the physical preparation for the Tribulation that will be presented by Elder Todd Yaney and Amy Nagy.

At 10:00 am. on Sunday, April 8, the children of our congregation put on an Easter program, directed by Kelli Williams. Kelli read “An Easter Lily” which was a book directed at children. Throughout the story the youth (Brianna Morrison, Bethany Moses, Alyssa Marcangelo, Daynna Harm and Miles Marcangelo) read various Scripture verses that went along with the story. Poems were recited by Bethany, Brianna

and Todd Moses. The youth sang several songs of praise, including, "He Lives." Kelli did a reading on JOY while Miles Marcangelo, and Briggs and Bryer Eliason held up letters that spelled out the word. All of the kids did a wonderful job, but it was especially heart-warming to see the Eliason twins taking part in our children's program for the first time! At the end of the program the kids presented the women with small pots of Easter lily bulbs. Thank you Kelli, Todd, and Algonac youth. What a great way to start the day! Our pastor, Elder Gary Holmes, brought the Easter message at our 11:00 service. We always appreciate the way he shares the Gospel. During the service, Todd and Liz Moses sang, "Because He Lives." Their duet really ministered to us. It was a great day and a great way to celebrate our risen Savior!

On April 14 and 15 Oakwood Restoration Branch hosted a Community Service Youth Retreat. The theme was "Witness for God" and Jay and Kathi Havener were in charge. Oakwood hosted kids from the Center Place Restoration School (CPRS) in Independence. There were about 24 kids and 5 adult chaperones that drove the kids up in two big vans. Youth from our region were also invited to come and sleep at the church on Saturday night with the Missouri kids and take part in the weekend activities. Two of our Algonac youth, Bethany Moses and Brianna Morrison attended. In addition to Jay and Kathi, Kerry Horton and Chet Slagor helped with an outdoor project the youth participated in on Saturday. They all worked hard as they dug up all the flower beds, put in new mulch, planted flowers and cleaned the church. On Saturday evening they went to the Lapeer Community Center and enjoyed many activities including swimming, basketball and volley ball. On Sunday morning the ZAC youth (Zion's Ambassadors for Christ) and others took part in the service. Bethany gave the opening prayer and the youth shared testimonies and sang four songs. There was a

potluck after the service. When asked what she thought about the weekend, Bethany replied, "It made me feel really good about myself to be able to do something for God other than pay my tithing." Brianna said that she loved meeting new kids and making new friends. She summed up the weekend experience by saying, "When I returned home, I was on such a high spiritual plane ... I didn't feel like texting or turning on the television ... I was not at all anxious to get back into the world." Thanks so much to the Oakwood branch for hosting this retreat and to all of the adults who encourage our youth and help shape their lives.

April 27-29 Brianna Morrison was a CIT at the Spring Children's Retreat at the Port Huron Branch. It was Part 3 of "The Lineage of Christ." Betty Lou Newman was in charge. Brianna said she really enjoys helping out with the younger kids and wants to encourage more of them to attend these camps. "You can learn a lot, and have fun at the same time," she stated. We thank Port Huron for opening up their branch to the youth and appreciate all the adults and CIT's who give of their time and talents to teach and mentor the youth.

(As reported by Wendy Holmes)
The Algonac ladies had such a good time at the Painting Classes that were held at the Oakwood branch, so we decided to bring the fun to Algonac! Tracy Stokes was kind enough to accommodate us and on Saturday, April 28, she and Kathleen Modders arrived at our branch around 8:30 a.m. After numerous trips to Tracy's truck, they unloaded all of the supplies we would need, as well as beautiful frames to pick from for our finished masterpieces. Each of us had a work area that had been set up with a clean canvas, brushes, paints, paper towels and wipes. We had already picked out the picture we wanted to paint; it was a mountain scene with a few pine trees and

flowers in the foreground.



There were eight of us painting, and three of the eight had never tried this before. It was a challenge that Tracy was ready to take on! We had two mother/daughter couples there ... Nina Powers & Kelli Williams and Laura Taylor & Amber Monroe. In addition, there was Laura's friend, Martha, Elaine King, myself and Kathleen Modders.



Connie Burns so graciously came in and prepared the potluck lunch we had brought in. Things needed to be warmed up and cut, etc., so we were very thankful to have her there with us! Connie also cleaned up after us and we greatly appreciated that. We have missed her and Dick so much since they have been home healing from his surgery in January. We enjoyed a delicious lunch, which helped to renew our inner artist and then we got back to work. By 3:30 we had completed our masterpiece! Everyone was awed by what we were able

to accomplish in such a short time! Each one had their own unique touch to their painting. We had lots of laughs and really enjoyed seeing the artistic side of each other! Thanks to Tracy and Kathleen for coming to Algonac! We had a wonderful day and would love to do it again!

News and Notes

- We are so happy to have Elaine Harm back home with our Algonac family! She spent most of the winter at her "home away from home" in Zephyrhills, Florida. While there, she was visited by many family members and friends. She was really missed!
- February 9 – 11 Bethany Moses took part in the play, "Grease" at Dakota High School. She played a nerd in the chorus, which is definitely not type-casting! The production was fabulous and there was a sold out audience all three nights. We are proud of Bethany and her many talents!
- We were so very saddened by the passing of our dear sister, Nellie Haynes, from the Sanilac branch. Hod and Nina Powers were able to attend her Memorial Service at the Sanilac Restoration branch on March 25. Our thoughts and prayers are with Nellie's mother, Ella, and all the saints at the Sanilac Branch. She will be missed by all of us.
- In April, Bethany sang the National Anthem at her school's Wheelchair Basketball Fundraiser.
- On April 24 – 27, Bethany Moses went on her 8th grade class trip to Washington DC. There were approximately 60 students. She had a great time and did a lot of sightseeing, including the Wall, the WW II Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial and the White House (from the outside). She did spot

the President's dog, Bo, on the lawn. She said the most memorable part of the trip was visiting the Arlington Cemetery. She stated that it was very touching and hard to fathom so many soldiers giving their lives for our country. It really makes you appreciate the freedoms we enjoy and sometimes take for granted.

- April 24 – 29, Todd Moses traveled with his High School Choir (45 students & 8 chaperones) to New York City. They performed a song for 3 Broadway producers on a stage at the New Amsterdam Theatre. In addition, they learned some choreography from cast members of Mary Poppins and had a training session with the actress who played Mrs. Potts on Disney's "Beauty & the Beast." They also met other Broadway performers for a "Q & A" session. It was quite a thrill for all of them. Todd said that all went well and everyone had a great time, but he needed a long rest when he returned home!
- Prayers would be appreciated for Dick and Connie Burns (Dick is still at home recovering from back surgery), Gary and Marge Holmes, Barb and Bruce Krinkie, Nina Powers (eyesight) and Kelli Williams.

We are so thankful for the mild winter weather we had and are grateful for the return of more sunshine and warmer temperatures. We look forward to the many group activities that we will be able to enjoy outdoors very soon! Of course, at the top of the list is the gathering of saints at our Great Lakes Restoration branches reunion at Wesleyan Woods in July. Until then, may God be with you and bless you in your daily walk with Him. As always, you remain in our thoughts and prayers.

May 3rd National Day of Prayer



2 Chronicles 7:14

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

May God have Mercy upon this nation

Atlanta Branch By: Jessica S. Joles Slater

Happy Spring!! It is our prayer that everyone had a wonderful Easter. The Atlanta Branch celebrated Easter Sunday with a wonderful service and the blessing of Connor Alexander Slater. We were blessed to have a wonderful day and want to thank the many visitors who attended to help Heath and Jessica celebrate the blessing of their first child.

As the warmer weather approaches we look forward to our traveling members return. Last Sunday we were excited to see Jim and Eleanor Wigglesworth. Both Jim and Eleanor have been ill this winter and not able to attend. We would also like to welcome back Brian and Tonya Korona. You have all been greatly missed.

It has been a challenging few months for several of our members and we hope you join us in prayer for Cliff Goodfellow and Mark Ouderkirk. Cliff recently fell from a ladder and has broken several bones. While being treated, doctors found spots on his lungs and believe they may be

cancerous. Over winter, Mark fell on some ice and broke a rib.

Our branch was blessed to host Elders Fred Brown, Jr. and Steve Ruck on April 15th. The service was followed by potluck and fellowship.

We ask for prayers for the following:

Christiane – Undiagnosed severe pain

Lillian Benac – Continues to reside in a care facility and asks for prayers for her affliction

Jim Wregglesworth – Complications from strokes

Eleanor Wregglesworth – Continued recuperation from gallbladder surgery

Cliff Goodfellow – Broken bones and cancer,

Mark Ouderkirk – Continued recuperation from a fall.

Becky Howard – Back surgery

The Moore Family – Mr. Moore was diagnosed with prostate cancer. He is in his late 40's and the family has 5 children.

The Miller Family – Barbara Miller passed away unexpectedly at age 35. She had 4 children and was about to become a grandmother.

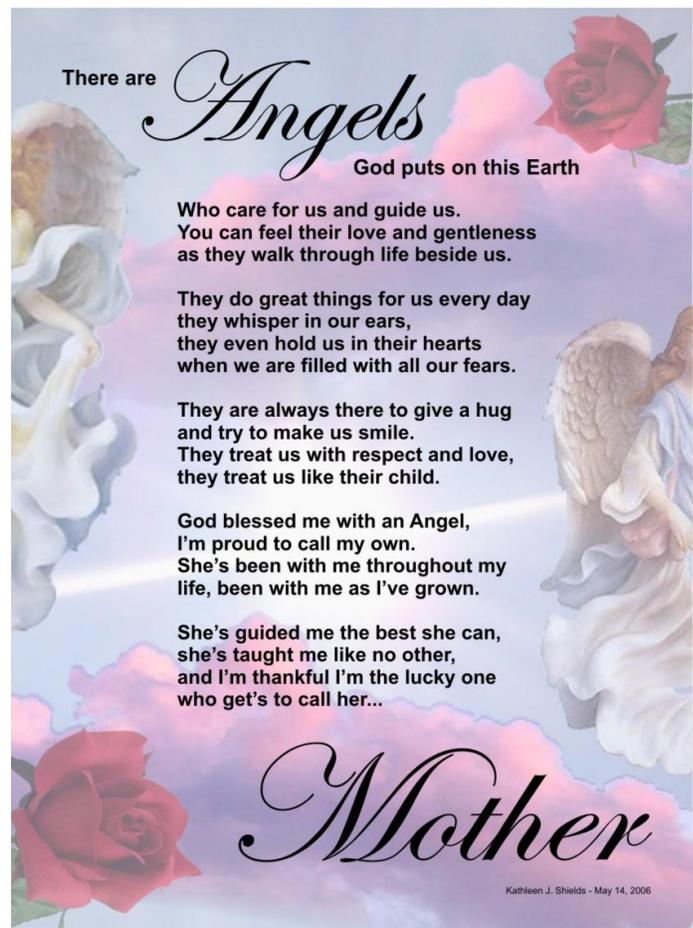
Danna Howard – Guidance and direction

Brian Howard – Guidance and direction

The Northern Michigan Restoration Branch invites anyone who is in our area to stop by and worship with us.

God Bless

May 13th Mother's Day



May 28th Memorial Day

I first saw him on a park bench
I've seen him every day
Sitting in a shady grove
Where my children come to play
Sometimes he feeds the birds and squirrels
Or whittles little toys
Sometimes he just sits and smiles
At the laughing girls and boys
And I never paid him any mind
'Till one day just this year
I noticed that he wore a frown
And on his cheek ... a tear.

Well I asked him why he seemed so down
He looked up, began to say
I lost half my friends 60 years ago today
He told me of the terror
As he fought to reach dry land
By the time the beachhead was secure
Half his friends lay in the sand.

That was just in one long day
He fought on for 4 years more
And the 60 years from then to now
Have not dimmed His sights of war.

He said they have reunions
Just to keep in touch and share
And for each comrade who has gone on
They leave an empty chair.

Well, His park bench has been empty now
About 6 months or so
And if I'd never took the time
Then I never would've known
That sitting on that simple bench
With bread crumbs and little toys
Was a man who gave his all
To guarantee my daily joys.

So give thanks to all the men and women
Who're still here or have gone before
And made the highest sacrifice
In both Peace time and in War
Because they bought our freedom
Paid their own blood, sweat, and tears

Then endured the heartache of those
empty chairs
For all these years.

So please do not ignore them
Or speed by without a care
'Cause you never know
When you might pass by
A hero, unaware.



Garden City By: Kurt & Susan
Fishwild

Greetings once again to our fellow saints
in the surrounding area.
In February, a funeral service was held for
our Brother David Allen Wright. Brother
David passed away on February 19th. The
service was held at Garden City
Restoration Branch on February 25th.
Elder Rex Monarch presided and Elder
Bob Ruch from Oakwood Branch gave
the remarks. Two of David's favorite
hymns, "There's An Old, Old Path" and
"Admonition (O My People)" were sung at
the service. David's phone ministry and
his loving manner will be remembered by
many people. There is no question that
Brother David loved the Lord and was
always about doing His work here.
On Sunday, April 8th, the children and
youth of the congregation put on an
Easter program during the 10:00 hour.
"The Tale of Three Trees" was presented
in costumed drama, readings and
scriptures. The three trees represented
three key times in Christ's life – his birth,
his ministry and his death.
The weekend of April 27 – 29, five youth
from Garden City - Alyssa and Paige Ely,
Alicia Crouch and Megan and Ethan
Fishwild - attended the Spring Children's

Retreat at Port Huron. Madison Carnahan was one of the C.I.T's for the weekend. Thanks to Becky and Luc Tremblay who helped at the Retreat for the first time. The theme for the weekend was the lineage of Christ (Part 3). One highlight of the weekend was the outdoor campfire built by Kerry Horton (from Oakwood Branch) on Saturday night and the s'mores too! On Sunday morning the children put on several drama presentations (Esther, Daniel, Solomon) in small groups for the congregation. They also sang a song at the 11:00 service. The children are looking forward to the week-long camp at Erie Beach this summer.

We are asking you to keep Richard and Helen Ziegler in your prayers as they continue to struggle with health issues. We hope and pray that they will be healthy enough to attend church with us regularly again soon.

Many thanks to the ministers who provided guest ministry to the saints at Garden City for the past three months – Marc Hanna, Todd Yaney and Keith Dabbs.

We are looking forward to seeing you at Reunion this summer!

June 17th Father's Day

Poem: I Want to Be Just Like You

In a time when fathers are totally absent,
gone most of the time,
or physically present but mentally
distracted,
you are there for me—
looking at me, listening to me
understanding me, talking with me.
You make time for me
even when it's inconvenient for you.
You make me feel important to you.
I learn from you when you teach me,
when I watch you do things,
and when I observe you
just being you—a terrific father.
Every affectionate smile you give me,
every pat on the back, every hug

shows me you love me,
that you're proud of me.
These are things I'll remember
to do for my own kids.
You're a great role model, Dad.
I want to be just like you.
By Joanna Fuchs

"A Little Humor"



Oakwood By: Kathleen Modders

It's been a busy spring at Oakwood! We hosted a retreat for the Zion's Youth campers (grades 7-12), which is always a lot of fun. Cole Vandenberg, Nick and Joe Brown, Jackson Nagy, Dustin Michael, Jonathan Modders, and Marissa Sutton attended from Oakwood. Special thanks to Chet Slagor and Jay Havener for teaching classes, Twyla Bernard for leading the wonderful campfire, Michele Turner and Tracy Stokes for cooking, and Jules Essenmacher, Dan Daggett, and Kathleen Modders for being counselors. We had many new kids this time, and really had a great time getting to know them! We're looking forward to Zion's Youth Camp the week of July 15 – 21 at a new place this year: Camp Oakland in Oxford. Please encourage your youth to attend!

March 31 saw several women from Oakwood traveling to the Port Huron congregation for the Spring Women's Bazaar to do what they do best: shop! Kathi Havener revved up the old red Ford van and drove Julie Fox, Clareen Carroll, Helen Smith, Kathleen Modders, Mary

Richards, and Bonnie Murphy for a daylong adventure that also included lunch at the Golden Corral and a visit to the Mennonite store in Sandusky.

The weekend of April 13 – 16 brought many new friends our way from the Center Place Restoration School (CPRS) in Independence, Missouri. Twenty-four kids ranging in age from 12 to 18 and five adults drove up to Oakwood to do a congregational service project. Once or twice each year the group contacts a Restoration Branch and asks to come and help with a project. The group arrived late Friday night after a long day of traveling and Jay and Kathi Havener met the group with lots of milk and cookies! The next day, the kids cleaned flowerbeds all around the church and shoveled mountains of mulch! Some of them also cleaned out our barn. Later, they enjoyed playing basketball and swimming at the Lapeer Community Center before traveling back to Oakwood for a campfire. The group put on the Sunday morning service, which was followed by a great potluck. Sunday afternoon, the group sang at a nursing home in Lapeer and enjoyed Dairy Queen treats courtesy of Chet Slagor and Bill Sutton. Special thanks to the Oakwood women who donated food; Chet Slagor, Kerry Horton, and Jay Havener who directed the cleanup projects; and Kathi Havener and Helen Brown who cooked for the crew.

Shawn Ruch, Andrea Sovey, Kathi Havener, Julie Fox, Helen Danicki, and Caylee Hamann all participated in the Make a Wish walk at the Detroit Zoo on May 5. The team raised almost \$1,000 for the charity, which grants wishes to terminally ill children. The weather was perfect as about 2,500 walkers enjoyed touring the zoo during the 3-mile walk, which included a great lunch and t-shirt! Many people carried signs that read, "Thank you for making [my son or daughter's] wish possible." And several of the kids in the program attended the walk and described their joy at visiting

places like Disneyland. It was a wonderful day for a wonderful cause!

REUNION:

Dear Saints,

We are once again back on the Reunion 2012 trail. I am sending out some information for you to pass along to your congregations in regard to this year's Reunion.

1. The dates will be Monday, July 30th through Sunday, August 5th.
2. We will once again be at the Wesleyan Woods campgrounds in Vassar, MI
3. The theme will be "Be ye in the world, but not of the world"
4. The theme song will be "I Would Be True". # 322
5. Guest ministry will be High Priest Paul Gage, Elder Michael Brown & Patriarch Vern Darling
6. The cost for the Reunion will be the same as last year (about \$200 per adult person). You all know that we do not charge. We rely on free will offerings, but there are those still who would like to know what their share is. So this information is for them.
7. Each branch has its own way of financing Reunion. For those who take up a special offering, that should take place in May and again in June. Each branch should decide on a specific date or dates.
8. Registration forms will be available at your branches and through the mail on May 20th.
9. We will have Patriarch Vernon Darling with us this year. If you think you might like to have your Patriarchal Blessing please contact Mick Ruch. I have a document for you that will help to explain exactly

what it is and how best to prepare for it.

10. We will be having a Craft Table again this year. If you are planning on contributing in that way it would be helpful if you would also include a price for the item.

11. Any Baptisms we will have will be on Friday evening with the Confirmations to follow on Saturday morning.

12. Each daily prayer service will contain a time of administration for those wishing to be lifted up in prayer with the saints. Individuals wishing to take advantage of this special time will need to prearrange the administration with the camp pastorate. As always, administrations within a private setting are available.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Ruch (Mick) (810) 820-7340

Oakwood Birthdays for this quarter are:
(June)

6 Bob Modders, 11 Matt Mervyn, 12 Bonnie Murphy, 14 Dale Day, 14 Kim Slagor, 17 Kathleen Modders, 24 Shirley MacDonald, 27 Cruz Nagy, 30 Josh Havener

(July)

3 Mike Modders, 4 Jay Thrift, 6 Brad Millen, 8 Joshua Johnson, 14 Pat Edwards, 20 Kathi Havener, 20 Mallory Johnson, 25 Doris Hill

(August)

1 Ken Burrows, 2 Jan Burrows, 6 Candy MacDonald, 6 Jaimelynn Servin, 9 Bernard Pearl, 11 Wendy Nagy, 17 Tracy Stokes, 18 Hannah Macdonald, 26 Sandy Kline, 28 Mark Wilson, 28 Melanie Brown, 30 Wilson Moore, 31 Gladys Kirylo

Oakwood Welcomes New Families

Perhaps on any given Sunday, it would be hard for the casual observer to see the evidence that Oakwood has more than 73 new families who worship with us. But it's true! Our video ministry program sends out DVDs and CDs of our Sunday services to more than 73 families of Saints all over the United States who are otherwise isolated, have no priesthood, or have sporadic contact with traveling priesthood. Mike Ruch, Mike Danicki, Mike and Kathleen Modders, and Dennis Smith all work hard in this ministry.

We have received many cards and letters from the Saints who get our services on DVD or CD expressing their heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to worship with the Oakwood Saints through this ministry. Some of their comments testify to their enjoyment of being able to once again worship with a large group of Saints. They have expressed that even if they are not physically in the sanctuary with us, they have felt the Good Spirit through the recorded services. We hope to have the capability soon to be able to have our "extended Oakwood family" worship with us in real-time. We will soon be launching a website that will give us the capability to "live-stream" our

worship services. In the meantime, we will continue to serve our extended family through DVDs and CDs.

In addition to these extended families, we have also been blessed with some new families that worship with us each Sunday. We have been privileged to welcome the Tomanek family, the Hulse family, and Kim Gilchrist to the branch. Kim is a wonderful pianist who has shared her talents with us and has enhanced our worship experience. She is also interested in organizing a youth choir! Can't wait!! We also enjoy having Caylee Hamann from Independence, Missouri, worship with us while she completes her education at a Detroit hospital. Caylee also has blessed us by playing piano for our services. She is only in Michigan for a short time, but we would like it to become permanent! (What do you think Caylee? Michigan is a pretty good place to live!)

Otter Lake By: Susie Daggett

Our soup supper that was held February 10th was a success. We had a good turn out and some very tasty soups. We always like the fellowship too! The Daggetts hosted a pizza fellowship on May 6th. There were 26 in attendance. We were blessed with great weather so some were able to sit on the back deck and visit and the children were able to run around and play. We even had a tree climber, we are very glad he didn't fall! John Daniels attended the older youth retreat and had a good time. We are glad Janet is back from her trip to Florida, she is missed when she isn't here. We would like to thank all of the guest ministry and their families who have blessed us with their presence over the last few months.

July 4th Independence Day

"RAGGED OLD FLAG"

I walked through a county courthouse square,
On a park bench an old man was sitting there.
I said, "Your old courthouse is kinda run down."
He said, "Naw, it'll do for our little town."
I said, "Your flagpole has leaned a little bit,
And that's a Ragged Old Flag you got hanging on it.

He said, "Have a seat", and I sat down.
"Is this the first time you've been to our little town?"
I said, "I think it is." He said, "I don't like to brag,
But we're kinda proud of that Ragged Old Flag."

"You see, we got a little hole in that flag there
When Washington took it across the Delaware.
And it got powder-burned the night Francis Scott Key
Sat watching it writing _Oh Say Can You See_
And it got a bad rip in New Orleans
With Packingham and Jackson tuggin' at its seams."

"And it almost fell at the Alamo
Beside the Texas flag, but she waved on through.
She got cut with a sword at Chancellorsville
And she got cut again at Shiloh Hill.
There was Robert E. Lee, Beauregard, and Bragg,
And the south wind blew hard on that Ragged Old Flag."

"On Flanders Field in World War I
She got a big hole from a Bertha gun.

She turned blood red in World War II
She hung limp and low by the time it was
through.
She was in Korea and Vietnam.
She went where she was sent by her
Uncle Sam."

"She waved from our ships upon the
briny foam,
And now they've about quit waving her
back here at home.
In her own good land she's been abused -
-
She's been burned, dishonored, denied
and refused."

"And the government for which she
stands
Is scandalized throughout the land.
And she's getting threadbare and wearing
thin,
But she's in good shape for the shape
she's in.
'Cause she's been through the fire before
And I believe she can take a whole lot
more."

"So we raise her up every morning,
Take her down every night.
We don't let her touch the ground
And we fold her up right.
On second thought I DO like to brag,
'Cause I'm mighty proud of that Ragged
Old Flag."

Written by Johnny Cash



Port Huron By: Cathy Daggett

Hello from the Blue Water Area Saints. It is shaping up to be a beautiful spring and all is well with our little branch. To start out the spring we had a spring bazaar and bake sale that was very successful, we made a little over \$1,000 for the branch activities this year.

Our youth have been very busy at school this year. Andrew Kercher, son of Chris Kercher and grandson of John and Connie DeBell is graduating from Albion College Magna Cum Laude with a double major in History and Philosophy. Andrew will be spending another summer working on Mackinaw Island before going on to pursue a graduate degree in history.

Avery Bolt, daughter of Scott and Amy Bolt, granddaughter of Jack and Barb Tynan is now a member of the National Honor Society and her sister Jillian is a member of the Junior National Honor Society. Alexis Parmenter, daughter of Gordon and Jessica Parmenter and granddaughter of Brian and Cathy Daggett is also a member of the Junior National Honor Society. Alexis's sister Celeste just competed in the state finals for Destination Imagination for Thomas Edison Elementary in Port Huron and Celeste's team came in 3rd place in their challenge.

Our branch just had the honor of hosting a children's retreat for 3rd – 7th grades this past weekend. We had 23 young people in attendance for all over the region. We had several newcomers as both campers as well as teachers/counselors. The children performed several skits for us during the 10:00 a.m. hour. The skits reminded us of God's grace and how he watches over us always. During the 11:00 a.m. service Gary Desjardins played the trumpet and Megan Fishwild and Grace Johnson played piano for us. The

children were truly a blessing to have visited us.

“A Little More Humor”



Sanilac By: Kathleen Palmer

“A Fruitful Garden” by Kathleen Palmer. Fruit of the Spirit teach us true love, joy and peace and faith. "Help us to plant our gardens full to save our willful race." Help us be patient, kind and good. God grant abundant grace. God bless the mother, teacher, friend who nurtures fruit within. Meekness and Temperance, self-control in us our garden grows. Let us indulge of Godly fruit. Gardens of love will grow. (Sung to the tune of “Happy the Home When God is there.)

In February we were thankful to have our pastor and his wife, Barent and Barb Eliason, back home to enjoy our potluck dinner on February 26th. Our master chefs, Tom and Janine Essenmacher, served meatloaf with a

delicious sauce for the main course. God blessed our fellowship with love.

March was a busy month for our Sanilac Branch. Bill and Kathleen Palmer went to Hawaii for the month of March returning April 7th. They had a wonderful time enjoying the sunshine and beautiful scenery. On March 17th, Kathleen and Bill’s brother-in law, John, passed away after a lengthy illness.

March 18th Barent and Barb Eliason traveled to Missouri where Ames Chase Eliason, son of Eric and Cory Eliason, was blessed by his two grandfathers, Elder Don Cutshall and Elder Barent Eliason.

We are still in shock and saddened by the sudden passing of our sister, Nellie Haynes, on March 10th. A Memorial Service was held at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, March 25th. Visitation was held from 1:00 till 2:00 p.m. with the family. Priest Tom Essenmacher gave the eulogy and our pastor, Elder Barent Eliason, gave the funeral sermon. It was a marvelous tribute to Nellie’s mother, Ella, as to the number of people who attended the memorial. There was standing room only after all the seats were filled. Kerri Daniels sang “Amazing Grace” and “How Great thou Art.” She did a beautiful job of singing.

Janine Essenmacher was in charge of the dinner following the service with the help of the Sanilac women and the Mental Health women, where Nellie worked. Sister Nellie was librarian and Church Historian. She quietly did her jobs and gave a lot of her time for the Lord to serve her brothers and sisters. Her spirit will continue to dwell with us as we pray that the Lord will comfort her mother and grant her peace. We always called Nellie “Our Prayer Warrior.”

On Saturday, March 31st, Debbie DesJardins and Barb Eliason headed to Port Huron to attend the Spring Bazaar at

the Port Huron-Sarnia Branch. It was fun shopping for items for the Mother/Daughter Banquet, and we could not pass by the bake sale without buying. Thank you ladies for a fun morning. We then had lunch at the Olive Garden!

On April 5th, we had a Maundy Thursday Service with Priest Tom Essenmacher in charge. It was a candle light service where Tom led us from Jesus entering Jerusalem through the trial and crucifixion. The tables were full and each person present read from the three standard books. It was a very spiritual evening. Tom closed the evening with the Seder Meal in remembrance of the Passover. Everyone enjoyed tasting the different combinations of the bitter and the sweet that the Jews taste every year.

April 8th, we had a delicious Easter morning breakfast with our chef, Tom Essenmacher, serving his very special pancakes. We then went upstairs for our morning worship of which Sister Bev Miller was in charge. Elder Wayne Bartrow preached a very spiritual Easter message and the choir provided the special music.

The last weekend of April, Tom, Janine, Julie, and Gary DesJardins went to the Spring Children's Retreat in Port Huron. Gary drew a scene of the City of Enoch on a poster board to show at the retreat. During the 11:00 a.m. service Gary played "Amazing Grace" on his trumpet for the Introit. Tom and Janine were the cooks. It was reported that these kids like to eat Tom's cooking, and that it was a wonderful weekend. Thank you, Betty Lou Newman for making this weekend possible to help our children learn about people in the Bible.

"Life Began in the Garden," at the Sanilac Branch as we gathered for our Mother/Daughter Banquet and Program. We had our own Chef, Tom Essenmacher, and his assistant, Lowell Decker prepare

and serve a delicious garden luncheon. After lunch we all went upstairs for the program. Thank you Tom and Lowell.

Kathleen Palmer gave the welcome. Mary Lou Bartrow then gave a tribute to our Nellie Haynes. A group of about 50 sang the hymn, "In the Garden," which sounded so full and beautiful. It was as if angels were singing with us. Poems were read; Emma DesJardins and Avery Carpenter sang, "Jesus Loves Me."

One of the Highlights of the program was the children skipping and jumping around the colorful May pole with their wings flapping. The Garden Party with the Sanilac gals brought many laughs. Flower seeds were passed out to each one present by the children. The Sanilac Women sang the song, "What Fruit Have You Gathered for Jesus" which led into the theme, "Fruits of the Spirit" from Galatians. Kathleen and Mary Lou read about each fruit and the Sanilac women hung the fruit on the different trees.

We closed with the hymn written by Kathleen Palmer, "A Fruitful Garden." (At the beginning of this article.) Amy Nagy and Val Bradley, Algonac Branch, gave the opening and closing prayers. It was announced next year's Mother/Daughter theme will be "Let's go on a Safari." Mark your calendars for May 4th, 2013.

Before everyone went home, each one received lovely gifts to take with them. A special "thank you" to Deanna Pirt for your generous donation of gifts. Thank you to everyone who attended. You certainly made this day very special.

Gary DesJardins, a Peck School student, receive a #1 rating for his solo on the trumpet from the District Band Competition. He also had a Spring Band Concert in Peck, in which the junior and Senior Bands performed. We are so blessed to have Gary share his talent at our church also.

Emma DesJardins performed in the 2012 ballet recital on May 3rd. She did a wonderful job and looked like an angel in her pretty ballet costume. We are so proud of both Gary and Emma for their accomplishments.

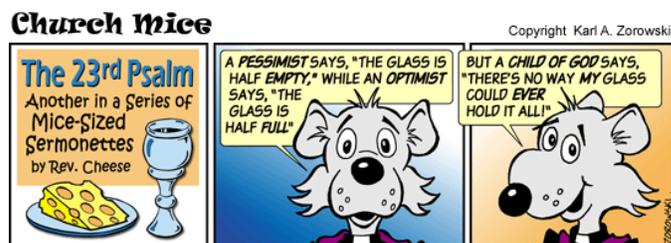
Happy Birthday to: Mar. 13, Barent Eliason; Mar. 19th Julie Essenmacher; April 5th Mary Lou Bartrow; April 13th Mary Lee Cove and Annie Smith; April 28th Esther Markey turned 93 years of age; and April 29th, Kerri Daniels.

Happy Anniversary to: Feb. 10th, Lloyd and Denise Rich; March 31st, Randy and Debbie DesJardins; and April 10th, Barent and Barb Eliason.

It always amazes us how well our services come together each Sunday from the pre-worship service to the last

song sung. Our services are not planned. Each one does their part when asked and it is the Lord who directs us and our visiting ministers. Thank you, Bob Ruch, Jim (Jean) McLeod, Hod (Nina) Powers, Ed MacDonald, and Leo (Clareen) Carroll.

Even more humor:



Anyone with new Email/phone/other info that you want published please send it to Jim Bradley @ zionswatchman@sbcglobal.net !

Regional Activities for the next quarter

Great Lakes Regional Men's Retreat May 18th & 19th

Zions Youth Camp July 15th- 21st Oxford, MI (see attachment)

Great Lakes Regional Annual Reunion July 30th thru August 5th

Anyone having articles or historical facts (that would be of interest to everyone), etc. please send them to me for future use. Please keep them to one page or less, as space is very limited and expensive. Thank you.

Send to:

**Jim Bradley
69250 Campground Rd.
Romeo, MI 48065
1-586-752-5965 Home
1-586-876-3227 Cell**

Email to: zionswatchman@sbcglobal.net

Email is highly preferred

Zion's Youth Camp July 15 – 21, 2012

For youth going into grades 7 through 12 and graduated seniors

Camp address: Crossroads for Youth Adventure Center
903 E. Drahner Rd.
Oxford, MI 48371

It's time again to get ready for camp! Hope you are all planning on coming! The staff for Zion's Youth Camp is very excited about another week of camp. We hope to have a camp that will leave all of you with a deeper relationship with God and memories with each other that will last a lifetime. The old saying goes, "You get out of it what you put into it," and so we hope you will come to camp leaving the world behind and carrying a positive attitude as we focus on learning more about God's word.

Elder Fred Brown, Sr. will be our Camp Pastor and Sister Claren Carroll will be our Camp Nurse. Other staff includes Twyla Bernard, Kathleen Modders, Kyle Bernard, Dan Daggett, Fred Brown, Jr., and our wonderful cooks Tracy Stokes and Helen Brown!

We've got some new activities this year that we're really looking forward to: team building activities, climbing the high ropes, low ropes challenge, crafts, recreation, classes, educational games, swimming, campfires, special worship services, goofy Olympics, smores, sporting activities, and more! The staff is working hard and preparing to make this camp a great experience. Bring a friend along and share in the best week of your summer!

**** Send in your registration form by July 1 so we know that you're coming!**

**** The cost for each camper is \$195.00.** Check with your pastor to see if your branch will pay for the camp. Many branches do. **HOWEVER, DO NOT LET THE COST OF CAMP KEEP YOU FROM COMING IF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY IS UNABLE TO PAY THE FULL AMOUNT!** We want you at camp!

- Make checks payable to **“Restoration Branches Reunion Fund.”**
- Send your registration forms to: Jay and Kathi Havener
220 S. Coats Rd. Oxford, MI 48371

Arrival time is 5 p.m. Sunday, July 15. Supper will be at approximately 6:15. Please **pick up your child at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 21.**

Things to bring to camp:

- A fantastic attitude
- A friend
- Scriptures
- Campfire blanket and flashlight
- Towels, shampoo, soap, toothbrush/paste, personal items
- Insect repellent
- Appropriate clothing (no offensive wording on clothes)
- Appropriate one-piece bathing suit (if in doubt, bring a t-shirt to wear over your suit)
- Swimming shoes
- Bedding, pillow
- A fan

Can't wait to see you!

Parents, if you need to reach us before or during camp, our cell phone numbers are Jay: (248) 909-1701 and Kathi: (248) 909-9702. Our e-mail address isojhavener@gmail.com.

Elder Jay Havener and Sister Kathi Havener, Camp Directors

Zion's Youth Camp

July 15-21, 2011

Registration Form: **Please call or return form by July 1.** You **MUST** have a properly completed registration form to attend camp. Return to:

Jay and Kathi Havener
220 S. Coats Rd.
Oxford, MI 48371
Phone: (248) 628-9702

Camper's Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Parent(s)/Guardian Names _____

Address _____

Home phone () _____ Work phone () _____ Cell phone () _____

ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone (_____) _____

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone (_____) _____

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone (_____) _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Current medical condition(s) that the nurse needs to be aware of. Use separate sheet if needed:

Current medication: _____

Dosage/times: _____

Reason for medication: _____

Current medication: _____

Dosage/times: _____

Reason for medication: _____

Current medication: _____
Dosage/times: _____
Reason for medication: _____

Circle any of the following conditions that apply: asthma diabetes epilepsy hay fever other

Specify other concerns (medical or behavioral): _____

Date of last tetanus shot _____

Does the camper have any swimming, activity, or other physical restrictions? _____

Does the camper have any dietary restrictions? _____

Family Physician _____ Phone: _____
() _____

Healthcare company: _____ Policy# _____ Group # _____

PLEASE ATTACH A COPY (FRONT AND BACK) OF YOUR INSURANCE CARD TO THIS FORM
Please note the required parent signature that is needed on this form.

PARENTAL PERMISSION/MEDICAL RELEASE

To the best of my knowledge, this person is in good health, and is physically able to participate in all camp activities, except as indicated. All medical problems or conditions requiring ongoing medical supervision or care have been fully noted.

I hereby approve my child's participation at this camp and give permission to the Camp Administration to make decisions related to the physical well being of my child.
I will notify the camp if my child is exposed to an infectious disease during the three weeks prior to arriving at camp.
I hereby give the Camp First Aid/CPR certified person permission to administer over-the-counter and prescription medications and/or First Aid, as required.

In the case of medical emergency, I understand every effort will be made to contact parents or guardian. In the event I cannot be reached, I hereby give permission to the physician and/or hospital selected by the Camp Directors or Camp Staff to secure proper treatment for my child as named above and will assume liability for any resulting expense.

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date _____

CAMPER AGREEMENT

CAMP RULES: *Only those willing to abide by these rules should plan to attend camp.*

1. A camp is similar to a large family; each person helps to bring happiness to others.
2. All campers are to take part in all camp activities, including cleanup, KP, etc.
3. Boys are not to be in the girls' cabins and girls are not to be in the boys' cabins.
4. All clothing should be modest and not offensive to the Lord and those who try to follow Him. No inappropriate sayings on clothing.
5. One-piece bathing suits are appropriate for our young women and swim trunks for our young men. If in doubt, bring a t-shirt to wear over your bathing suit!
6. Aqua socks or swimming shoes may be needed for the beach.
7. Any medication at camp must be given to and dispensed by the Camp Nurse.
8. No tobacco, alcoholic drinks, drugs, pop, candy, or other "junk food" are to be brought to camp. We will provide the extra treats.
9. You may want to bring a fan.
10. If you need an alarm clock, bring an alarm clock!
11. No cell phones, iPods, electronic games, etc.! Camp Directors will collect any found and return at the end of camp.
12. Telephone calls are on an emergency basis only with the Camp Directors' permission.
13. Campers must stay with the group and not wander through the camp alone.
14. No one will leave the grounds during the camp without the permission of the Camp Directors.

I agree to abide by the camp rules and the directions given by the Camp Directors and Camp Staff.

Camper's signature: _____

Date: _____
