

# The Anchor



## The Great Lakes Restoration Branches Magazine/Newsletter

Vol. 4 - 8

Issue 73

Winter 2011



### News From Around the Region

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



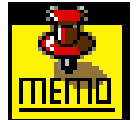
“By faith all things are fulfilled: Wherefore, whoso believeth in God might with surety hope for a better world, yea, even a place at the right hand of God which hope cometh of faith maketh an Anchor to the souls of men, which would make them sure and steadfast, always abounding in good works, being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

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



In recognition of **“Scout Sunday,”** my 8-year-old grandson, Liam Bradley-Tonchev has assisted me with this issue of our quarterly newsletter. He chose, copied, pasted clip-art and was responsible for the Editor’s Desk article.

Thank you Liam! (Grandpa loves you)



**Save A Date:** Please save the following dates on your calendar..... April 16<sup>th</sup> (1-day women’s Retreat @ Algonac), July 10 thru 16<sup>th</sup> (Older Youth Camp @ Sanford Reunion Grounds-Jay & Kathi Havener, July 25<sup>th</sup> thru July 31<sup>st</sup> (GLRB Reunion @ Wesleyan Woods) and Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> thru Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> (Fall Women’s Retreat @ Wesleyan Woods).

**Algonac Branch** By: Val Bradley

“This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his

friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.”

(John 15:12-14) The love of God and of you, our dear friends, is such a blessing. Happy Valentine’s Day!

**On Sunday, November 14, we were pleased to have Fred Brown, Sr. (& Helen) as our guest speaker. We really appreciated his ministry. He loves to share the gospel story and speaks from the heart. Thanks Fred!**

**The children, under the direction of Kelli Williams, presented a Thanksgiving program on Sunday, November 21. It began with singing "If You're Thankful and You Know It." A rope was strung across the rostrum and the children hung letters on it, which spelled out the word Thanksgiving. Each letter represented part of a Thanksgiving prayer. Brianna Morrison and Bethany Moses read a poem and all of the children shared what they were thankful for. There was a poster up front of a large ear of corn. All of the children placed different colors of kernels on it (representing indian corn), stating what they were thankful for. The congregation was then invited to come up front and share what they were thankful for. The program ended with everyone singing the hymn, "We Gather Together." We thank Kelli for planning the program and a BIG thanks to Bethany Moses, Brianna Morrison, David & Ava Nagy and Alyssa and Miles Marcangelo for their participation! We then heard a marvelous sermon by Priest Tim Holmes regarding the meaning of Thanksgiving, followed by a delicious Thanksgiving potluck meal – complete with turkey and all the trimmings. Our congregation is truly blessed and we have much to be thankful for!**

**On Thursday, December 16, our Algonac church family had our annual Christmas dinner at Brengman's restaurant in Richmond. Most of our group was able to attend. The food was delicious and the fellowship was**

**wonderful! The women had an ornament exchange and we all enjoyed opening our gifts. Nina Powers, our Women's Leader had a gift for each of us. (An angel or other Christmas decoration.) We presented her with a gift from all of us, in appreciation for all she does for us throughout the year. Each of the ladies also received a huge bag of assorted gift bags, gift-wrap and blank note cards from Tina Yaney, and it was much appreciated. Thanks, Tina!**

**The Algonac Christmas Program was held at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 19. It was directed by Kelli Williams and Todd Moses. The children gave a presentation on the 12 symbols of Christmas. The symbols included an evergreen tree, cookies, ornaments, wreaths, bells, presents, ribbons & bows, holly, candles, candy canes, angels and a star. There was a Christmas tree on the rostrum and as Kelli explained the meaning of each symbol, the children placed the items either on or underneath the tree. It was a reminder of how each symbol can be viewed in a spiritual light. The youth sang a number of songs, including "Ring Those Bells," which they really enjoy, as they get to ring the bells while they are singing! (It's a favorite of our congregation, too!) Solos were sung by Gary Holmes, Todd Moses and Liz Moses. In addition, the congregation sang several Christmas carols. Towards the end of the program the children, in biblical attire, reenacted the nativity scene. The program ended with the children singing Happy Birthday to Jesus. The kids then handed out Christmas bookmarks to everyone and the women also received a canvas recycling bag with a "Peace on Earth" imprint on it. Our pastor and his wife, Gary and Marge Holmes were presented with a special gift, as well as several others**

who had helped out with the program. A big thanks to Kelli, Todd, and especially the children, who did such a wonderful job. We were so proud of all of them!

Elder Todd Yaney was the speaker for the 11:00 a.m. service. It was an excellent Christmas sermon. His theme was "The Gloria Moment." He quoted passages in the Scriptures where people praised the Lord and said (or sang) "Gloria!" He then mentioned instances in our modern day world and in his own personal life that were "Gloria" moments. He encouraged us to look for the "Gloria" moments in our own lives. When we look at the Christ child and realize in our hearts that He came just for us ... how can we not praise Him and say "Gloria!"

On Wednesday, December 29, we held our annual Candlelight Service. Our pastor, Elder Gary Holmes officiated. As he read the Christmas story from the Scriptures, we paused throughout the service to sing various carols relating to the birth of Christ. At the end of the service, with each of our candles lit, we sang "This Little Light of Mine." We also had the opportunity to share ways in which we hoped to shine the light of Christ in the coming year. The Lord's spirit was truly with us and we felt a great love for the Lord and for each other. Afterwards we shared snacks and fellowship.

On Tuesday, January 25, our Men and Women's meetings were held in the home of Jim and Val Bradley. The men discussed ideas for the Spiritual Preparedness program that's being considered for the Algonac saints. Val taught the women's class. The topic was "Times of Refreshing." The women looked up Scriptures and discussed ways in which we are refreshed physically, mentally and

spiritually. They were given note cards with a rose on the front, with the phrase "Stop and smell the roses" underneath. This was to remind us that when we relax and take the time to draw near to God, our minds are refreshed and our strength/spirit is renewed. As always, we ended our meeting with a circle prayer. Afterwards, we all gathered together in the dining room and were "refreshed" by great snacks (compliments of Marge Holmes and Nina Powers) and fellowship!

### News and Notes

- Bethany Moses was selected last fall for the Michigan Schools Vocal Music Association's two-part MS/JH State Honors Choir. The choir rehearsed in Midland, Saline and Holland over a three-month period to prepare for their concert in Grand Rapids. The choir had 107 youth from grades 6-8 and they performed in the beautiful auditorium of the DeVos Place on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> with two other state honors choirs for the 2011 Michigan Music Conference. We are so proud of you, Bethany!
- Algonac has our very own "Dancing with the Stars" celebrity! Todd Moses had the opportunity to help raise funds for the Dakota High School band program by dancing a salsa routine to "Mambo Italiano." He was partnered with the Detroit Argentine Tango, which has their dance studio located in downtown Utica. His dance instructor, Yelena Murray, polished their dance to get them ready for the big night, when they were introduced as the

international team, since Yelena originally lived just south of Moscow, Russia. It was a fun night out and the funds helped the band students with their trip to perform in Chicago. Congratulations, Todd!

- Our sister Elaine Harm is currently at her winter home in Florida. She is enjoying visits from family and friends. We miss you, Elaine and look forward to your return!
- Prayers would be appreciated for Jane Yaney – cancer (Todd’s Mom), Gary and Marge Holmes, JD Cargill, Jean John, Ray Moses, Nina Powers, Dick Burns, Tim Holmes, Kelli Williams, and Jim Bradley.

We enjoyed celebrating the Christmas season and winter activities with the saints and look forward to the coming of spring, the renewal of the earth and the opportunities we’ll have to meet with many of you. As always, you remain in our thoughts and prayers.

**Atlanta Branch** By: Jessica S. Jules Slater - It is with much regret that I must write of the passing of our beloved sister Roberta Davis (April 15, 1927 – November 5, 2010). Roberta’s funeral was held November 8, 2010 at the Wolfe-O’Neill Funeral Home in Kalkaska, MI. Elder Harry Hyde and Elder Merle Joles (Community of Christ Church) officiated. The service was very touching, with her family sharing favorite memories. She was very involved in our branch, and as many of you know, she was the author of our branch portion of this newsletter for many years. She was also well known

for ensuring that cards and flowers were sent for birthdays or if someone was ill. She never failed to include a personal note in her cards, regardless of how well she knew you.

October 31 was our annual Business Meeting. Elder Harry Hyde continues as Pastor and Sue Hyde continues as Treasurer. The following are officer changes: Secretary – Jessica S. Jules Slater, Flowers/Cards – Eleanor Wregglesworth, Recorder/Historian – Mark Ouderkirk, Women’s Leader – Tonya Korona and IT Person – Heath Slater. Our branch created a new IT position to assist in the creation of a branch website and automated phone tree. As the website is developed, a link will be provided. Additionally, the branch is updating their telephone directory. If you would like a copy, please let me know.

We are working to organize our branch library. All the books, periodicals, digital media, etc. will be categorized, organized and alphabetized. Once this is completed, a new checkout procedure will be put into place.

On December 19, the branch held our annual Christmas program. We were blessed to have Danna Howard and her infant daughter Aurora join us. Elder Jim Wregglesworth and his wife Eleanor, on the guitar and accordion, treated us to musical performances. Sue Hyde and Danna Howard sang hymns accompanied on piano by Ila Ross. Christmas stories and testimonies were given by Elder Harry Hyde, Cliff and Dixie Goodfellow and Heath and Jessica Slater. A wonderful potluck dinner and the assembly of gift baskets for the needy followed our service.

2011 has started out with services being canceled twice due to weather and illness. Our current prayer list includes: Dolores Howard – pneumonia, Nancy Guy – Illness, Christiane – undiagnosed severe pain, Lillian Benac – who is in a care facility and Gary Joles – back pain and possible surgery.

The Northern Michigan Restoration Branch invites anyone who is in our area to stop by and worship with us. Please remember that the last Sunday of the month is potluck and there is always plenty.

God Bless

## A Little Humor-Super Bowl Style



## A little more

### Little Old Lady and the Atheist

There was a little old lady who would come out every morning on the steps of her front porch, raise her arms to the sky and shout, "Praise the Lord!" Well, one day an atheist moved into the house next door. Over time, he became irritated at the little old lady. So every morning he would step out onto his

front porch and yell after her, "There is no God!"

Time passes with the two of them carrying on this way every day. Then one morning in the middle of winter, the little old lady stepped onto her front porch and shouted, "Praise the Lord! Lord, I have no food and I am hungry. Please provide for me, oh Lord!"

The next morning she stepped onto her porch and there were two huge bags of groceries sitting there. "Praise the Lord!" she cried out. "He has provided groceries for me!" The atheist jumped out of the hedges and shouted, "There is no Lord. I bought those groceries!" The little old lady threw her arms into the air and shouted, "Praise the Lord! He has provided me with groceries and He made the devil pay for them!"

Garden City By: Judy Monarch

Guest Ministry: Elder Robert Ruch, and Elder Ed MacDonald, Thank you all so very much for the giving of your time and ministry to our branch. We love you all!

### Prayer Requests:

Margret Baltzer-health; Barbara Bell-cancer treatments; Diana Flynn-cancer treatment, Carl McKidde-blood clots, Mike Hintz-rare blood leukemia; Don/Nancy McKiddie-health; Eddie Beck- leukemia.

### Branch News:

Garden City will now have a branch pastorate made up of the five elders: Glen Carnahan, Kurt Fishwild, Carl McKiddie, Rex Monarch, Richard Ziegler.

**Congratulations:**

Heather Owens has just announced her engagement to Greg Bird of Missouri. They are planning a July wedding this summer, 2011 in Independence, Missouri. We are all very excited for them both!

**Christmas Program:**

Our Christmas program this year was wonderful! Betty-Lou organized the children's parts while the adults also participated. All in costume, recounting the night our Savior was born. Goodie bags and a tray of homemade cookies/candies were had after the program.

**Outreach Ministry:**

This year, instead of going to the Salvation Army for a list of names, our congregation decided because of the economic situation at hand, we personally knew of families that were in need and decided to make our own tags and hang them on our tree in the lobby.

The tags were coded and clothing sizes and particular's i.e. age and gender were added. Many members then took a tag home and did the shopping, wrapped everything up and placed the tag on the outside of their bag. Coats, boots, hats, gloves and outfits and toys were purchased.

Persons in charge of this Ministry, collected the many bags, and delivered the gifts and food baskets, supplied by the congregation, to the various homes.

What a blessing, to be able to do the Lords work here on Earth.

I hope everyone is keeping warm and counting their many blessings!

Judy

**Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> NATIONAL**



**FREEDOM DAY**

National Freedom Day is a United States observance on February 1 honoring the signing by [Abraham Lincoln](#) of a joint [House](#) and [Senate](#) resolution that later became the [13th Amendment](#) to the [U.S. Constitution](#). President Lincoln signed the Amendment outlawing slavery on February 1, 1865, although it was not ratified by the states until later.

Major [Richard Robert Wright Sr.](#), a former [slave](#), believed that there should be a day when freedom for all Americans is celebrated. While living in [Philadelphia](#) towards the end of his life, he invited local and national leaders to meet to organize a movement for a national holiday to commemorate Lincoln's signing of the 13th Amendment. The resulting National Freedom Association proposed

having a memorial date to call attention to the continuing struggle for freedom for African-Americans. Since President Lincoln had signed the 13th Amendment on the first day of February, that date was chosen to celebrate National Freedom Day.

Claudius. St. Valentine defied a marriage law and was jailed for it. Legend tells that Saint left a farewell note for the jailer's daughter and signed it - 'From Your Valentine', before his execution. Since, then the tradition of romantic poems on valentine began. Love notes and romantic messages are also part of this tradition. Very lately, in the 1800s came the custom of exchanging valentine cards in which sentimental valentines day poems were written.

## Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day



## Valentines Day History

History behind the magical day: Valentine's Day is a day of expressing eternal love to your friends and families. It is not just exchanging love notes with your partner but, with all your near and dear ones. A legend is behind this beautiful day about St. Valentine. Since he lost his life in spreading the message of love to the people on February 14<sup>th</sup>, Valentine's Day is celebrated on this day in his commemoration. People still continue to give gifts, cards and love messages to their loved ones.

The story of valentine poems stems like this - Saint Valentine was a priest who served during the reign of Emperor

## Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> President's Day



Oakwood By: Kathleen Modders

After 23 years as one of the Oakwood co-pastors, Elder Robert H. Ruch is stepping down. We would like to thank him and his wife Bev for their wonderful service to the Oakwood Branch. We have all been blessed by Bob's leadership and Bev's unfailing support in so many ways. On January 23, the congregation presented Bob and Bev with a gift certificate to their favorite restaurant, Outback Steakhouse, along with a new lamp for Bob's study with a plaque that reads, "Bob and Bev Ruch, in appreciation of your many years of service as our pastor and his helpmate. Thank you.

**Oakwood Restoration Branch, Church of Jesus Christ."**

**We've got high hopes for the Oakwood Women's Group this year. We are meeting one Sunday a month at 8:45 a.m. for a women's class. Kathi Havener gave the first class on January 23 entitled, "Relationships - A Friend Loveth at all Times" based on Proverbs 17:17. She led a discussion on how friends can change throughout their lives because of the experiences each person has. As they change and grow, their relationships with others change. Sometimes the relationships become stronger, and sometimes they become strained or non-existent. But we need to constantly pray for one another and love each other as Christ loves us. We need to try to look at others the way Christ does so we can see the beauty in each person. Sometimes it's easier to just let the person go and the relationship die. But if you have a friend, you have a responsibility to love that friend at all times, no matter what. Make the effort - Christ did.**

**We are also beginning a women's outreach initiative where every month the women form home visiting teams to visit other women in the branch. We want to not only visit the shut-ins, but each women's home in order to get to know them better and share our testimonies of our Lord. We pray that both those making visits and those receiving visits will be blessed with the Lord's Good Spirit and draw closer to Him and to each other. We really want to grow as friends, sisters, and handmaidens.**

**Other planned activities for our women's group include attending the play, "On Golden Pond" in March, the Regional Women's Retreat at Algonac**

**in April, the Women's Spring Banquet at Sanilac in May, attending the play, "Jesus Christ Superstar" in June, participating in reunion in July, caravanning to Shipshewana for an overnight trip in August, participating in the Regional Women's Retreat in Vassar in October, supporting the Sanilac Women's Group in November by buying crafts and LOTS of homemade goodies during their annual bazaar (including a trip to the Mennonite Store!) , and attending a Christmas tea-party brunch at the White Horse Inn in Metamora. It's going to be a busy year....and a blessed one!**

**Oakwood Church has Jr. Church and would like to welcome any children to attend from the different branches. The following dates are scheduled for Jr. Church: March 13 & 27. April 10 & 24. May 8 & 22. June 12 & 26. September 4 & 18. October 9 & 23. 11 am to 12 pm in our fellowship hall. Hope to see you all there.**

**Mark your calendar for the upcoming youth activities! (More information to come closer to the dates) All are invited to share with the activities.**

- Canoe trip: August 20**
- Cedar Point, tentative date: September 17**
- Costume party: October 27**
- Thanksgiving dinner: November 20**
- New Years Eve safe night party: December 31.**

**We want to wish a Happy Birthday to our church family this quarter:**

## **Regional Youth Ministry** **Needs Your Help**

**January birthdays: Beverly Ruch: 1, Debbie Stevens: 3, Virgil Struble: 6, Dustin Michael: 9, Brenda Fishwild: 10, Glenda Smith: 12, Stacy Ruch: 27, Ed MacDonald & Reese Nagy: 28**

**February birthdays: Steve Ruch: 9, Fred Brown: 14, Norris MacDonald: 15, Deanna Smith: 19, Edna Fisher: 21, Joey Brown: 28**

**March birthdays: Jamie Moore: 4, Sarah MacDonald & Heather Mervyn: 10, Aaden Stokes: 11, Chet Slagor: 14, Cody Ruch & Brittney Stokes: 18, Debbie Michael: 21, Sammy Hoover: 23, Eric Stokes Jr.: 26, Beth Everhart: 28, Jamie Modders & Cheryl Slagor: 29**

**April birthdays are: Michael (Mike) Ruch & Chaz Intermazzio: 1, Don Everhart: 8, Christina Mervyn: 9, Dennis Smith & Rebecca Servin: 14, Gustavo & Samantha Servin: 17, Chris Vandenburg: 18, Chris Nagy: 20, Leo Carroll: 21, Doris Thrift & Jackson Nagy: 24, Rebecca MacDonald: 26**

**Last February, Kerry Horton attended service to listen to Elder John Moses speak on his 100 birthday and has been attending every Sunday since. A call of Deacon came a few months ago and was put to a vote to our Oakwood members. It was unanimous acceptance to the calling, and on February 20, Kerry Horton will be ordained to the office of Deacon. We are very excited for Kerry and support him in this new call.**

**New baptisms in the church: On November 14, Kimberly K. Ramirez and Joy M. McCrea were baptized into Christ's church.**

**Prayer list: Our Military Troops, Doris Mueller, Glenda Smith, Graham Fishwild, Pat Edwards.**

**We are extremely thankful that there are those who have given hours and hours of volunteer time on behalf our Restoration youth. This includes our Sunday school teachers, youth directors for the various branches, camp directors, camp staff, and reunion youth staff members. There are not words enough to express our collective gratitude for your service and efforts! As Camp Directors for our Older Youth, and participants in our branch youth programs, Kathi and I have begun to see a need for a comprehensive and concerted effort on the part of all of our branches if we are to keep our youth active and involved in the church. Statistics show that 9 out of 10 teenagers will leave the church in their senior year of high school and only 5 will return. That means that 40% are lost. That is not acceptable! We need to lower that attrition rate by whatever means possible.**

**We would like to organize a Great Lakes Regional Youth Council that would be organized much like the Regional Reunion Committee. The purpose would be to join our efforts as youth workers to plan yearly activities such as camps and retreats, provide program ideas that will keep our young people engaged in the work of the church, to provide a support system for our young people beginning from kindergarten up to and including college bound youth.**

**We would like to have volunteers from each branch to be a part of the council. Please give it some prayerful consideration. Remember, our young people are vital to the continued success of the Restoration Gospel. If you would like to help organize the council and serve, please contact Jay**

and Kathi Havener at [ojhavener@gmail.com](mailto:ojhavener@gmail.com) or by phone at (248) 628-9702. We would like to hold our first meeting in February!!!!

God Bless!  
Jay and Kathi Havener

## **March 13<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time**



### **"Spring Forward" 1 hour**

**Otter Lake** By: Susie Daggett

Hi to all our friends out there!

We are pleased that Melanie Broughman has graduated from boot camp for the Air Force. Congratulations Melanie!

We would like to request prayers continuing for Vera Broughman, also Bonnie and Bob Sutton who do much to take care of her.

Thank you to all of our guest ministry we've had the last few months.

Our business meeting was held on January 30<sup>th</sup> and all officers were sustained.

Lynnette Daniels and Susie Daggett enjoyed participating in the Woman's Retreat held in October.

John Daniels attended the older youth retreat held in the fall. Thank you to

Kathi and Jay for putting it on and all the helpers.

Janet Palmig just returned from a trip to Florida to help take care of her mother Ethel who is currently in the hospital and could use your prayers also.

## **April 17<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday**



**Palm Sunday is based on Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44 and John 12:12-19**

**As Jesus and his disciples neared Jerusalem, he sent two of his disciples on a mission.**

**"Go to the next village. As soon as you enter, you'll find a donkey tied up, one that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it to me. If anyone asks, 'What are you doing?' say, 'The Lord needs it, and will return it right away,'" said Jesus.**

**The disciples went and found the donkey just as Jesus said and untied it.**

**Some people standing nearby said, "Why are you taking that donkey?"**

**The disciples replied just as Jesus had instructed them, and the people let them take it.**

**They brought it to Jesus. After spreading their coats on it, Jesus climbed up on the donkey.**

**As they headed down the Mount of Olives, the crowd began shouting praises over all the miracles they had seen.**

**"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"**

**"All is well in heaven! Glory in the high places!"**

**Some Pharisees from the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, get your followers under control!"**

**But Jesus said, "Even if they were quiet, the very stones would burst out in praise."**

**When Jerusalem came into view, Jesus cried for the city and said,**

**"If you had only known what was happening today and everything that was given to you! But now it's too late. In the days ahead your enemies will surround you, attacking from every side. They'll smash down your walls. Not one stone will be left on another. All this because you didn't recognize and welcome God's personal visit."**

**The huge crowd that had arrived for the Passover Feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. Those that had witnessed Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead had spread the word**

**and had much of the city excited.**

**They threw their garments down on the road in front of Jesus. Others cut branches from the trees and threw them down in front of him. The crowd ahead of him and following behind were shouting,**

**"Hosanna to David's son!"**

**"Blessed is he who comes in God's name!"**

**"Hosanna in highest heaven!"**

**The Pharisees saw all this and were disgusted.**

**"It's out of control. The whole world's following him," said the Pharisees.**

**As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was shaken.**

**People asked, "Who is this?"**

**And the crowd answered, "This is the prophet Jesus, the one from Nazareth in Galilee."**

**Jesus entered Jerusalem and made his way to the Temple. After looking around, he returned to Bethany with his disciples for the night.**

**His disciples didn't understand all that was happening at the time. But after Jesus was glorified, they remembered that Jesus had done everything that had been written about him.**

**Spend the next week contemplating the cost paid for our Salvation!**

**Port Huron** By: Cathy Daggett

Hello from the frozen blue water area. We have been busy over here baptizing new members. We welcomed several of Jack & Barb Tynan's family members into our little family. The church family gathered down at Lakeside Beach twice, first for their daughter-in-law Judy and their three children Shaun, Cory and Sarah. Then on another Sunday we gathered again for the baptism of their granddaughters, Olivia Bolt and Arianna Britz. Brian & Cathy Daggett's daughter-in-law Joy Daggett was also baptized down on the beach on a beautiful clear morning.

We had a very special birthday this fall; Greta Clark celebrated her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. Happy Birthday Greta, we love you!

We wound our summer down with a pool party at John & Connie DeBells house for a picnic complete with ice cream sundaes for dessert. The day was a bit cool and overcast but we didn't let that slow us down. We started off with a beautiful church service and then jumped right into the picnic. Some of the brave souls even jumped in the pool, Evan Kercher even went in with a cast on his leg!

Our branch went to visit our friendly neighbors to the north for a hay ride and pizza party. The Port Huron and Algonac branches went to Sandusky and Barent & Eric Eliason loaded us all in wagons and off we went. Thanks to everyone in Sandusky for a memorable and fun filled Sunday afternoon.

We had our yearly election of officers this fall and the new officers took over as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. We welcome Ed Smerer as our new Pastor and Sharon

Smerer as our new Woman's leader. Joe & Jennifer Millett and Scott & Amy Bolt will be sharing the responsibility of our youth education as co-leaders.

We just had a recent loss of our dear sister Evelyn Daily, please keep the Daily family in your prayers.

With love and many blessings to everyone, Cathy Daggett

## **April 24<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday**



**The greatest day this  
world has ever known.  
Salvation to all mankind!**

## **A Broken Chrysalis**

It's truly amazing what a girl will do for love.

My wife, Jean, and I lived next door to each other for ten years before we were married. My sophomore interest in high school biology had sparked a live caterpillar collection. Their home was a shoe box, covered with screen wire. When I went on vacation, Jean

fed them faithfully with leaves from her willow tree. She hated it.

Finally the caterpillars stopped their incessant crawling and chewing, attached their tails firmly to a stick and lay still, sheathed with a shiny leather-like case. For weeks they seemed to be dead, unmoving in their tiny gray wrappings. I removed the screen and waited.

One by one, the gray cases began to twist and turn violently, and suddenly split open. A beautiful butterfly emerged. It stood for hours gently moving its wings, pumping fluids into them to extend them fully. Then the butterfly soared gracefully away on the breezes of summer, leaving nothing behind but a broken chrysalis to indicate its former bondage.

The chrysalis and butterfly suggest the empty grave clothes of our risen Lord. When Peter and John heard the news that the Lord's body was gone from the garden tomb, they ran all the way from their lodging. Peter entered the tomb and "he saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen" (John 20:6-7, NIV). The grave clothes once wrapped continuously around the body now lay collapsed, mute testimony that the corpse they had once shrouded had now emerged in life.

The bondage of death is broken. Christ is risen! We can face tomorrow with the assurance that Jesus is in fact alive to help us, to guide us, to give us hope for the future. And since He is living, our problems are not unsolvable. The broken chrysalis of His grave clothes proclaims that Christ is Victor even

over death. Because He lives, nothing is impossible.

## Liam wanted the children to have some Easter Eggs



Sanilac By: Kathleen Palmer  
Thank you, Father, for sending Jesus into our world to show us the way and to tell us of eternal glory.

November has crept upon us once more. It is a month of Thanksgiving for all the blessings the Lord has given us.

Our Women's Group was very busy preparing for our yearly Christmas Bazaar, which was held November 20<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. We again had a luncheon and would like to thank all who came from other branches to have lunch and purchase Christmas items. We all enjoyed the fellowship and fun of being together. Next year, girls, we will have the long table all ready for you! Our group is few in number, but the Lord blessed us with a very successful Bazaar.

On November 21<sup>st</sup> Barent and Barb traveled to Missouri to be with their family for Thanksgiving and to celebrate their twin grandsons, Briggs and Breyer's 1<sup>st</sup> birthdays. Also, while there they celebrated Barb's ??? birthday!

December was a very busy month with lots going on to celebrate the birth of

**Jesus. Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m., there was a beautiful branch candlelight service, conducted by Elder Barent Eliason. Scriptures were read, hymns were sung and candles were lit by each reader. It was a wonderful spiritual service.**

**December 8<sup>th</sup> our branch went Christmas caroling. We met at the Dairy Queen parking lot and went to Ester Markeys, Ella Haynes, Stone Gate Nursing Home and Dora's Aunts at the High Rise. We all had a wonderful time of singing, visiting and fellowship with one another. After which, we went to the Dairy Queen for a treat.**

**On December 19<sup>th</sup>, we had our Christmas program with Dora Guterrez and Debby DesJardins in charge. The theme was "The Wonders of Christmas." Paige, Maddy and Sydney Parker, Gary and Emma DesJardins and Avery Carpenter and Nellie Haynes participated. There was special music by Gary, Paige and Maddy, Women's choir, Men's Choir and Emma, Sydney and Avery. A poem was read by Julia Guterrez. A big thanks to all who participated. After a special Christmas sermon, a delicious pot luck dinner was served, gifts were opened and a very special time of fellowship was had by all. Fruit baskets were taken to our shut-ins.**

**After the party, Barent and Barb left for Missouri to be with their family for the holidays. Wayne and Mary Lou Bartrow left to celebrate Christmas with their children in Plymouth and Georgia, after which they traveled to Florida and Missouri. They are now back in Plymouth with their daughter.**

**William Palmer celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday with a surprise party on December 20<sup>th</sup> with his family.**

**Marry Morris, Kathleen Palmer's mother celebrated her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday December 30<sup>th</sup> with her family at her home. She has been having knee problems and has had to use a walker and now has a knee brace and is doing much better.**

**We are sorry to report that Bill Day slipped on ice and broke his leg. He had to have surgery, but is now in a walking cast and doing much better. Mary Lee has been a big help to him.**

**January has brought lots of snow and cold weather, but it doesn't stop the Lord's work.**

**On January 5<sup>th</sup> we attended Maddy Parker and Gary Desjardins band concert at Peck High School. Maddy plays the flute and Gary plays the trumpet. They both did very well. We heard some Christmas music because that is what they had prepared in December. Due to a snow storm, the concert was cancelled until January 5<sup>th</sup>. Way to go Maddy and Gary! We are proud of you both.**

**Our Women's Department meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month. We are studying "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23" by W. Phillips Keller. After we are through with the book, we are each to recite from memory, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. Mary Lou Bartrow is our teacher. Our annual Mother and Daughter Banquet is planned for Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at noon for the meal and the program after. Our theme is "Welcome to Mom's Café."**

**Emma DesJardins celebrated her 4<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party at her home on January 29<sup>th</sup>. She had a Repunzel party. Everyone had a wonderful time,**

adults and children alike. Ask Barent, when you see him, about the ditch!

A very special thanks to all who use their God-given talents in special music for November, December and January. Barent, Barb, Denise, Gary, Dora, Kathleen, Women's Choir, Men's Choir, Todd Moses, Susan and Megan Fishwild, Mary Lou and Wayne Bartrow. Thank you to Barb for her music at the piano every Sunday.

A very special Happy Birthday to :Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, Gary DesJardins – 13, Aubree Rich – 19, Kathleen Palmer – 27, Sydney Parker – 30, Barb Eliason – December 14, Ken Parker – 20<sup>th</sup>, Bill Palmer – 27, Shelly Carpenter – 21<sup>st</sup>, Johnathan Rich – 30, Mary Morris – Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, Bev Miller – 9<sup>th</sup>, Steve Parker – 18, Denise Rich – 29<sup>th</sup>, Emma DesJardins.

It takes everyone to be a special part of God's work in our little church. Sharing the work and talents each has. Appreciation goes out to Barb Eliason

for the November worship setting, all the congregation for December setting and Kathleen Palmer for the January setting.

We are ever so thankful for our priesthood, who bring spiritual messages every week. Many travel great distances to bring the Word of God. Thank you to: Dale Day, Bob Harris, Jim (Jean) McLeod, Kurt (Susan) Fishwild, Graham Fishwild for being in charge on Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, Bob (Bev) Ruch, Jay (Kathi) Havener, Todd Moses, Hod (Nina) Powers, and to our pastor, Barent Eliason and Elder Wayne Bartrow.

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

## **Regional Activities for the next quarter**

- ❖ **Feb. 18, 19 & 20<sup>th</sup> Children's Retreat @ Oakwood Branch**
- ❖ **March 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Men's Retreat - Lansing, MI 1-989-224-6969 for info**
- ❖ **April 16<sup>th</sup> One-Day Women's Retreat @ Algonac Branch**

## **FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:**

### **Boy Scout article by my 8-year old grandson: Liam Bradley-Tonchev**



As part of the scout promise, the boys promise to do their best to do their duty to God and their country. The Boy Scouts of America encourages this by holding a "Scout Sunday" a day where the scouts can attend their place of worship in their class A uniform. As recognition, the boys who participate will receive a patch from their pack. The Boy Scouts of America designates the Sunday that falls before February 8 (Scouting Anniversary Day) as Scout Sunday. This year Scout Sunday is recognized on February 6<sup>th</sup>, although as long as the Scout wears his uniform to church any Sunday in the month of February it will still count. A day can be arranged where the scouts within the congregation come in uniform. They could also greet as people come in, pass out bulletins, and recognize their accomplishments over the past year. The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

#### **Scout Oath**

**On my honor I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.**

#### **Scout Law**

**A Scout is:**

<b>Trustworthy</b>	<b>Obedient</b>
<b>Loyal</b>	<b>Cheerful</b>
<b>Helpful</b>	<b>Thrifty</b>
<b>Friendly</b>	<b>Brave</b>
<b>Courteous</b>	<b>Clean</b>
<b>Kind</b>	<b>Reverent</b>

**These are the traits that the Boy Scouts of America teaches young boys as they mature and become responsible adults and active members of the community. The characteristics make up the Scout Law, a road map for daily life from which Boy Scouts and anyone can learn.**

**Ed. Note: Please support the Boy Scouts of America in any way you can. It is a terrific organization that makes for a better America!**

- ❖ **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](mailto:zionswatchman@sbcglobal.net)**

# Great Lakes Regional Women's Spring Retreat

*"Times of Refreshing and Renewal"*



*Date: Saturday, April 16, 2011*

*Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

*Place: Algonac Restoration Branch  
818 Market Street  
Algonac, MI 48001  
Phone: (910) 794-5534*

*Cost: Donation*

*Bring: Your scriptures and come prepared to learn about refreshing and renewal as a Latter Day Saint woman!*

*Contact: Val Bradley if you plan on attending so we can plan a lunch count  
Phone: (586) 752-5965 or (586) 202-3351  
Email: zionswatchman@sbcglobal.net*