

POTTAWATOMIE NEWS

WAVERLY — By the time you read this, the New Year will be well under way. Happy New Year to all, and thanks for your contributions to this column. If you wish your news to be included, call our new number (785) 893-5188.

The Bill Redding family had several gatherings during the holiday season. On Christmas Eve, several of the family met at the home of Dave and Debbie Redding. Their guests were Bill Redding; Jamie Dreiling and Mikenzi, Madex, Mara, Jax, and Jordie; Heath Redding and Alexis, Landis, Ottawa, and Seth Redding, Mission, Texas.

On Christmas Day, Dave and Debbie took Bill up to the home of Joe and Andi Redding and sons at Platte City, Mo. Others there were Joyce Redding, Topeka, and Heath Redding and Alexis Landis, Ottawa, and Seth Redding, Texas. Dave and Debbie took their grandson, Seth, back to Texas on a trip that took from Friday through Sunday.

Terry and Rosann Osborn's family gathered on Christmas Eve. At first, the ladies were in the majority, as Sherie Baldwin's and Kelsey's husbands are firefighters and

had to work. Later on, Derek Kistner and son, Dalton, and Mason James were present. Corey and Sidney came Sunday for dinner.

The Osborns are keeping great-grandson Gunnar for a few nights over New Year's.

David and Connie Kunkel's guests on Christmas Day were her mother, Frances Crooks, and brothers and wives, Rich and Carolyn Crooks and Terry and Lynn Crooks; John Hegg and friend, Angel, all of Burlington; Jerry Kunkel, and Travis and Kristi Vogts and girls.

Glenn and Phyllis Dorcas had a full house Dec. 26 for their family Christmas. First to arrive and last to leave was John Dorcas, New York City, who arrived Monday and left Friday. They were joined Dec. 26 by Steve and Kat Dorcas, Allen; Scott and Cathy Dorcas and Matt and Kate Wiggins, all of Emporia; Tommy Dorcas and Ally Urban, Wichita; Megan Dorcas, Kansas City, and Andy Flannagan; and Dorothy Cronk, Gardner.

Christmas Day was the date for the annual Norman family gathering in Burlington. John Wayne and Roberta Norman were under the weather and unable to attend. However, their daughters and several of their family members did attend. Among the 30 persons there were Laurie Stewart (Steve was sick), Lenexa; Jack and Sandy Salava and Jordan Salava, Manhattan; and John and Gaye Jarred, Claremore,

Okla. John Wayne's sisters, Iva Bowen and Evelyn Kim-mell, also attended.

Stan and Sharon Snyder's guests Saturday for a family Christmas were Mike and Amy Snyder and family, Logan and Cameron Snyder, and their step-brother, Sam, Valley

Center; and the Snyders' step-granddaughter and family, Allison and Cody Schniepp, Emersyn and Jett, Haysville. The Schniepp family left Saturday, and the rest Sunday night.

Glenn Dorcas called on Bill Redding Tuesday.

MENUS

Coffey County

East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging program congregate and home delivered meals are served Monday through Friday at the Burlington Senior Center (620) 364-2730, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Lebo Senior Center (620) 245-6166, and Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Waverly Senior Center (785) 733-2603.

Monday: Goulash, corn, rosy applesauce, graham crackers, French roll and milk.

Tuesday: BBQ pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, raw vegetable salad, pineapple, wheat bun and milk.

Wednesday: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, broccoli and cauliflower, brownie, wheat roll and milk.

Thursday: Smothered steak with gravy, whipped potatoes, spiced peaches, cookie, wheat bread and milk.

Friday: Chicken and noodles, peas and carrots, orange cottage cheese salad, wheat roll and milk.

Lyon County

Lyon County Congregate and home delivered Friendship meals are served Monday through Friday at Olpe and Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Neosho Rapids. Call one day in advance for Olpe meals at (620) 475-3384 and Neosho Rapids meals at (620) 342-8232. Please call before 9:30 a.m. to cancel meal (620) 340-8001.

Monday: Pepper beef patty with gravy, baked sweet potato, green peas, applesauce, oatmeal cookie, garlic bread and milk.

Tuesday: Beef tips in gravy, buttered egg noodles, marinated tomato salad, baked Brussels sprouts, fruited gelatin, bread and milk.

Wednesday: Chili, coleslaw, crackers, mandarin oranges, cinnamon roll and milk.

Thursday: Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans with onions, peaches, roll and milk.

Friday: Ham and potato au gratin, glazed carrots, cake, strawberries, cornbread and milk.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

Christian Women's Fellowship

Carolyn Harvey
Club secretary

The regular meeting of the Christian Women's Fellowship was called to order Dec. 9 by CWF President Sandy Meats with the CWF opening prayer. Roll call was given with members reporting six books read and 25 calls made to sick and elderly.

A November meeting was not held due to bad weather. Minutes from the Oct. 14 meeting were read and accepted. Donna P. gave the treasurer's report, which was approved.

Donna N. reported on the October hay ride and chili soup supper, and Cathy M. reported the November committee had the Fellowship dinner. Everyone was reminded to save greeting cards and calendars for KNI.

Sherman Houston sent a thank you. Cookson Hills Home and School in Oklahoma reports they have raised, with their matching funds, \$222,000. North Burma sent an update in the newsletter. Hidden Haven, Thayer, is receiving funds now for replacing mattresses for their dorms. The CWF approved making a donation to Hid-

den Haven in the amount of at least one mattress.

In new business, Sandy M. reported the storage building committee had given a report and have asked for an estimate; they decided three fire extinguishers was enough. The pastor was given a Christmas bonus; everyone was reminded about their faith pledges; the teen group was to have a Christmas supper Dec. 13 at the Barnhouse Café; the community Christmas lunch was to be Dec. 18 at First Christian Church. The board was to have a special meeting Dec. 23.

Meals on Wheels was discussed for the week of Dec. 23. Donna N. will deliver gifts to KNI, and the next meeting will be Jan. 13.

The evening's offering was \$153.

A lesson on Abigail was given by Cathy M. This lesson was about "thinking twice before speaking once."

Rhonda T. served refreshments.



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Let God direct our paths

Pastor Craig Campbell
House of Praise Community Church



Pastor Craig Campbell

Today as I am writing this, the calendar shows Jan. 1, 2020. It's a new month, a new year, a new decade.

As I reflect on the last decade, there have been many changes in my life alone. There have been ups and downs, good times and not so good times. There have been times of gain and times of loss. I am sure most, if not all the down times were of my own doing, while the ups were God's favor and blessing. At the beginning of 2010, I'm sure I had plans for my life that never materialized. My plans didn't include the loss of certain people I cared deeply about. They also didn't include gaining certain people I have become very close to. Six of our seven grandchildren were born during the last decade.

I have also felt the loss of those whom I have shared the Gospel of Jesus with but were tragically taken. As the past decade was winding down, Nov. 4, 2019, to be exact, I certainly hadn't planned for the house fire which destroyed most of our personal possessions.

Looking forward to this new decade, we are still reeling from some of the recent downs of the past, but optimistic as we look

ahead. There are certain things I have in mind for the coming year and beyond, some things I want to accomplish, places I want to go, etc. I still need to look for God's direction in all things. Proverbs 16:9 from the Amplified Bible says, "A man's mind plans his way [as he journeys through life]. But the Lord directs his steps and establishes them." No matter our plans, we need to follow the Lord's leading.

I don't know what this decade will be remembered for. The 1920s were called the Roaring 20s. It was a time of economic prosperity with a distinctive cultural edge. Sound familiar? It was also the first time in history when more people lived in cities than in the country.

Interestingly, in January of 1920, alcohol officially became illegal and lasted throughout the entire de-

cade until 1933. We also know this as prohibition. I really don't see that happening during these 20s.

If anyone was allowing God to direct their steps in the 1920s, it was Aimee Semple McPherson. During this time, she traveled the country preaching the gospel and established the Foursquare movement which has today become a large denomination of which I am affiliated. I don't know exactly what her plans were, but I do know God had a plan just like He does for you and me. God says, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." (NKJV)

Another translation for thoughts is plans. In other words, God plans peace for us and a future hope.

Whether these 20s are roaring or not remains to be seen. By the end of the 1920s, many who were not standing on God's promises were devastated by the stock market crash of 1929 which ushered in the Great Depression of the 1930s.

What looks good to us may not be what God has in mind. So don't worry about what it may look like to you, but always remember, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." (Proverbs 3:5)

Looking back

Nearly all of us have some method for planning our daily activities. With no plan to follow, our time will likely be wasted and our days meaningless. Often, however, our carefully detailed plans can be completely disrupted by an emergency or unexpected demand. In Psalm 92, however, we find a simple way to open and close each day and bring God's presence into our lives.

The Psalmist suggests that we begin the day with a "proclamation" - we are to "proclaim the love of God." If we begin each day by proclaiming the love that God has for us, it will remind us that we are safe and secure in His love and that nothing or no one can destroy us. Then, as the day unfolds and when the unexpected occurs and things seem upside down, we can know that He is holding us close to Himself and that He will protect us from that which

might harm us. It is in His love that we are safe and secure. As Paul wrote, "Nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." It is His love that keeps us close to Him and no one or nothing can break this bond that comes from Him.

As we end each day, we are advised to praise God for His faithfulness. Indeed, by His grace He has brought us through another day and He has proven Himself to be trustworthy. Even when tragedy strikes or the light of His presence is dim, we have the assurance that He is with us.

If "things" look bad today, we can always look back at our "yesterdays" and see God at work in our lives and praise Him for His trustworthiness and faithfulness.

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