

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. CIII

NOVEMBER, 2025

NO. 11

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD

O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name:
make known his deeds among the people.

Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him:
talk ye of all his wondrous works.

Glory ye in his holy name:
let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

Seek the LORD, and his strength:
seek his face evermore.

Remember his marvellous works that he hath done;
his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth.

Psalm 105:1-5

DIME TOSS

Ding, Ding, Tink, Tink, Tink. That's the sound I heard recently on a pleasant evening as I strolled across the grounds at a small community fair. As I approached the source of the dinging and tinkling, I could see that people (mostly children) were gathered around a table and the sound I heard was that of dimes bouncing off an array of glassware. A short table had been set up and amassed with various sizes and shapes of cups, mugs, bowls, vases and the like. People could purchase dimes if they didn't bring their own and as they tossed dimes toward the tableware, they could become the owner of any piece that their dime landed in.

An interesting idea. What I found fascinating though was watching the people in

this game. Some were quite pleased with taking any piece that their dime fell into, while others spent more dimes striving for a particular piece. In most accounts, people appeared quite satisfied with collecting their new trophy. What would they do with this new treasure? Would a coffee mug be used as a coffee mug alongside others in the cabinet or have a special role holding coins on a desk or become the home for a small plant? Would a vase be used to hold flowers or become a different decoration and be filled with different colored sands? I wondered these things as I looked into the faces of those collecting their new prizes.

Another thing that intrigued me was that the cups, mugs, bowls, vases, etc. were not new

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KEN BROCK, Editor, 1520 County Road 22-60, Stryker, OH 43557.
(419) 515-3396 | kenbrockdb@gmail.com

crystal or otherwise valuable glassware. Rather, they were used, and most had probably spent decades in cabinets, drawers, tables or on shelves before being brought now to the dime toss table. Their quality and character was that often seen at garage sales and thrift stores. Many may not have been worth the dime that bounced off them or clinked inside them. However, their new owners saw value in them and were willing to risk a dime, a few dimes or many dimes to acquire them.

This reminded me of the human situation before God and how He views us. From our human perspective, we might see ourselves a little like the old pieces of used glassware; each one unique but of limited use, nothing special and of little value. However, the Lord has a different perspective. He created us in His image, in the image of the Almighty God. He loves us and made us for a purpose. We are living souls. We are His creation, yet because of sin, we did not belong to Him. His valuation of us is so great that at tremendous cost, He was willing to pay the ultimate price to purchase us.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.” John 3:16-17

“Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.” Matt. 10:29-31

And as some of the new owners of a mug, cup or vase from that community fair might repurpose their freshly won piece, the Lord, as the new owner, has plans for the life of a previously lost sinner.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” II Cor. 5:17

That evening I saw smiles and excitement on faces as people received their “new” glassware. Luke tells us how much more is the rejoicing in

heaven when a precious soul is found.

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her

neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." Luke 15:7-10

As the new owners of the glassware may have plans for their new piece, so it is with the Father when He calls a new blood-bought soul into His Kingdom. Praise the Lord!

K. Brock

HOW DO YOU SAY GOODBYE?

How do you say "goodbye" to someone you have known for all your life? How do you spend the last moments with a person you have spent over fifty years with? Do we have examples in the Bible of those who have done this?

I believe that the Bible would show us that someone departing this life is like one departing on a long journey, expecting to be reunited with the ones that they are leaving. Our relationship with Jesus Christ indicates a uniting with fellow believers, showing us that, whatever the circumstance, we shall meet again, if not here, in Heaven.

Jesus said to the thief, hanging beside Him on the cross, *"Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise."* Luke 23:43

In Rev. 2:7 it says *"To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."*

Isaiah 25 tells us that God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes. It is the separation of the loved ones that causes the most difficulty. God's promises are secure to those who believe. We need not worry if God is under control, we KNOW that He is.

People ask me, "Will my dog and I be reunited in Heaven?" I am not looking for pets in Heaven, but I know that when we get there, we will not be disappointed. If we are looking for a human loved one and do not see them there, God will wipe away all tears. He is in charge, not us.

Jude 24-25: "*Now unto*

him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

Lynn & Ruth Miller

– before her recent passing
Newmanstown, PA

A CALL TO ACTION

Sometimes we attend things that feel refreshing and delightful. Other times we may be challenged, convicted, and blessed. Women's Retreat 2025 was all of these.

It was a lovely fall day that we gathered at Lake James in Indiana for this annual retreat. I heard figures that would say we've been doing this now for at least twenty years. The crowd was a little smaller than usual, but it was still so wonderful to see many familiar faces - people we have grown to know and love. A new widow, a new mother, glowing young girls who are happily dating, mothers of several who are enjoying a refreshing break from

littles, friends from decades ago, people we haven't seen in many years...it was all so good!

The first session was on "Jesus: The Best News and the Best Example". We were reminded that as God's children we have good news to share! The Good News is the Gospel and it's that Jesus came and made it possible for mankind to be restored to the Father! Jesus gave us a wonderful example of how to share God's love with people, showing compassion, listening, and spending time with people. He loved children. He loved sinners. It touched our hearts to hear Melanie share of how she witnessed her sister, Monica, (who she said is one

of her heroes), kneel down beside a severely handicapped girl in Haiti, who was basically abandoned because of her desperate, pathetic condition and in her filth, Monica showed her love and acknowledged her as a human, just stating her name and reaching out to her. That is what Jesus would do.

Melanie gave us a powerful session on many ways we can open our hearts and let God's love flow out to those around us: neighbors, babies, children who need a forever family, foreigners, ex-cons, and the list goes on. We need to see people as Jesus saw them – loving the lowest and the most unlovable. We can be lukewarm Christians, or we can be committed Christians. She read a reading by Francis Chan on the way to diagnose which one we are and it was rather painful and convicting.

We were encouraged to follow in His steps, not having “The American Dream” as our goal, but a heart for people and a desire to share God's love and The Good News with them.

Pheba Sam spoke next and she does not lack for enthusiasm and passion! She emphasized

how we need to understand God's heart for the lost and embrace evangelism as a joyful calling, not a burdensome duty. We need to share the Gospel clearly and compassionately. She gave very practical pointers on how we can effectively connect with and relate to those that are “down and out” and in desperate need of Jesus. They may have made many wrong choices, but they need to feel love and compassion from us and not judgmental condemnation. We need to share personal experiences with them that may relate to certain feelings or experiences they are having even though our backgrounds and world view may be miles apart. That way they will feel they can connect to us. We need to show them that we care.

Pheba didn't want the session to go in one ear and out the other so we were all encouraged to write down a short testimony about something in our lives and then share it with a partner and have prayer with them.

The singing was beautiful and the songs were so meaningful. Julie St. John led the singing with her lovely clear voice. I

love four-part harmony with men's voices, but sometimes, just women's voices hits a tender chord and is so sweet-sounding. The theme song was "So Send I You" and if you really think about those words, it is very moving. It holds special meaning to me as we sang that as a congregation at the service where our daughter and son-in-law were commissioned to go on the mission field. (I sang it through tears at that time.)

Of course, the mealtimes and snack times are always enjoyable for those of us that love food, and I can appreciate the effort made to mix us up to sit at tables with other people that we may not normally choose to sit with. We were divided up to sit at tables where we discussed topics like how to serve: the elderly and handicapped, in the medical field, on foreign mission fields, in parenting, etc.

On Saturday the sessions continued on the same topic, and with more power and conviction. You know what a cattle prod is that they use to shock cattle to get them moving? That's kind of how I was feeling. Like the Lord was trying to make me uncomfortable enough to get out of my comfort

zone, out of my laziness or timidity, and get up and moving! The whole day was truly a call to action!! Pheba challenged us with a time frame. We were encouraged to share the Good News to someone in the next seven days and make an effort to contact someone at least once a month for the next four months. Many examples were given of ideas to do: bake some cookies for a neighbor and look for an opportunity to share the love of Jesus when you give them, reach out to someone facing a hard time, conversing with anyone you meet in town who looks like they need encouragement, orphans, widows, getting involved with prison ministry, crisis pregnancy shelters, ...the list is endless. Just be available for where the Spirit leads you! We should be making a difference in our communities!

Sarah Priest led a breakout session for the young ladies and those who are "young at heart" – her title was "For the One". She spoke about this being a special season of life in which they would be making big decisions about their life and purpose. Using her life as an example, she explained how we can have hopes for our future,

but that God's plans may be different – and beautiful! She went on to give an overview of how God used women to minister in the early church as recorded in the book of Acts. She encouraged the young ladies to think about their unique design, values, and personal mission as they seek God's direction in their own life calling. It was a session filled with love, hope, and encouragement!

Melissa Brock emceed the one session and she shared how she tries to connect to the ladies that come into the crisis pregnancy center where

she works, and she has been blessed by something she's observed in another coworker in how she relates to the gals. No matter how broken or messed up their lives are, she would often say, "God made you to be cherished." That would sound like healing balm to anyone! I loved that example!

It was truly a rich and wonderful 24 hours and I sincerely thank all who put time, effort, work and prayers into the convicting retreat. The last song was "Sound the Battle Cry" and I felt like we had just been given marching orders!

Sound the battle cry!
See the foe is nigh,
Raise the standard high
For the Lord.
Gird your armor on;
Stand firm every one;
Rest your cause upon
His holy word.

Chorus: Rouse then, soldiers, rally round the banner!
Ready, steady, pass the word along;
Onward, forward, shout aloud hosanna!
Christ is captain of the mighty throng!

Strong to meet the foe,
Marching on we go,
While our cause we know
Must prevail.

Shield and banner bright,
Gleaming in the light,
Battling for the right,
We ne'er can fail.

O thou God of all,
Hear us when we call,
Help us one and all
By Thy grace!
When the battle's done,
And the victory won,
May we wear the crown
Before Thy face.

William Sherwin
Favorite Hymns of Praise No. 359

I pray I've been more than challenged – I pray I've been changed.

Sally Meyers
Dallas Center, IA

GIBBY YORD

Lessons from a 3-year-old

Shortly after we were married, my 3 ½ year old nephew came to spend the day. He was your typical 3-year-old precocious, fun-loving toddler, and at times was hard to understand.

When we sat down for lunch in his sweet voice he prayed the familiar words:

God is great, God is good.

Let us thank Him for the food.
By His hands we all are fed.
Gibby Yord our daily bread.

When finished he looked up and said, "Gibby Yord, Gibby Yord, Gibby Yord. All we say is Gibby Yord!" (Translated – Give us Lord).

Those simple words were so profound and is still something we have repeated through the

years. So, what did this little boy see in how an adult prays that I had overlooked in my life? He had a heart of thankfulness no matter how simple it was.

There are scriptures interspersed throughout the Bible that we should “ask”. John 15:7, *“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.”* James 1:5, *“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally...”*. So, it’s not wrong to ask when we pray. Jesus wants us to, but praise and thanksgiving should be an important aspect of our prayer life.

We are all thankful for so many things in life...such as the accident that was averted, the surgery that saved your life, or

the dress that fits now that did not used to, and if we stop to think about it, that list is almost never ending. It does not have to be something big. I know I am so thankful to just sit on the porch swing soaking in the quietness of the world around me or watching the little ones in the family learn to talk and walk.

I Chr. 16:34, *“Oh give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good...”* and Psalm 100 is a perfect example of thanksgiving and praise.

There are innumerable things to be thankful for, and I pray we can all be more aware of what we are thankful for.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Martha Heer
West Unity, OH

VIEWING THE HEAVENS

The beauty of nature and the splendor of creation are profound reminders of the grandeur handiwork of our Creator! Read Gen. 1:1-5. As we gaze upon the wonders of this world, with eyes made of flesh, we are humbled, realizing that ALL POWER belongs to GOD!

The small measure of ability given to us is not for our glory but to honor and praise the One who fashioned it all. Do we take the time to stop and watch the sun rise from the horizon of the East? I’m sure we all have taken some time to rest outdoors, maybe after a full day of work in the business place or just within the home.

You would enjoy resting under a shade tree, a swing on the porch or just lying on the ground and looking up into the heavens! What do you see? Maybe blue sky with white fluffy clouds, maybe dark clouds forming before a storm approaches, after a rain comes the colorful beauty of the rainbow, watching the sun set in the West and watching the wind blow leaves from the trees as they float to the ground in the Fall. Then when darkness falls upon the earth, we are reminded of the stars, the moon and the vast galaxy in the heavens as well.

Because we live in a world where humanity often exalts itself, we must pause and recognize the stark reality of our existence. Man may achieve many goals, but he is a mere vapor, a fleeting presence that appears briefly and then vanishes, often leaving little more than a fleeting memory. Yet, within this short life, we are granted glimpses of eternal splendor through the magnificence of His awesome creation. These glimpses serve as a faint reflection of the glory of heaven, a place infinitely more magnificent than anything our eyes have ever seen. *"The heavens declare the glory of*

God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork." Ps.19:1

A group of students was asked to list what they thought were the Seven Wonders of the World. Though there was some disagreement, the following got the most votes:

Egypt's Great Pyramids, Taj Mahal, Grand Canyon, Panama Canal, Empire State Building, St. Peter's Basilica and China's Great Wall.

While gathering the votes, the teacher noted that one student hadn't turned in her paper yet, so she asked the girl if she was having trouble with her list. The girl replied, "Yes, a little. I couldn't make up my mind because there were so many." The teacher said, "Well, tell us what you have and maybe we can help you." The girl hesitated, then said, "I think the Seven Wonders of the World are:

1. to see
2. to taste
3. to touch
4. to hear
5. to feel
6. to laugh
7. to love

The room was full of silence. Those things we overlook, they are just "ordinary" and most times

we take them for granted every
day that we live. This is a gentle
reminder that the most precious

things in life are bought with a
price from our Heavenly Father!

The Splendor of His Hand

In stillness lies a silent grace,
A mirror of the Maker's face.
The waters rest, a polished glass,
Reflecting skies as moments pass.

A canvas stretched in hues diving,
Where heaven's brushstrokes intertwine.
The blush of dawn, the golden gleam,
Dance softly on the tranquil stream.

The quiet ripples gently part,
Revealing God's artistic heart.
Each hue, each shade, a whispered word,
Creation's song, forever heard.

The trees bow low in reverence near,
Their verdant crowns a hymn sincere.
And mountains tall, with peaks aglow,
Proclaim His name in all they show.

O, even stillness bursts with praise,
In quiet waters, glory stays.
Magnificent, the colors blend,
A masterpiece that has no end.

So let me gaze and stand in awe,
Behold the splendor, free from flaw.
For in creation's grand display,
God's beauty shines in every way.

Author Unknown

Shirley Keeny
Glen Rock, PA

AMAZING

There are many things in our lives that are amazing. We don't know about all of the animals that were created, but today the American bison is the biggest animal in America and can weigh up to two thousand pounds. When I think of the very smallest creature we see today, it is the tiny, tiny bug about the size of the head of a straight pin. Amazing!

We have so many beautiful areas in all of the states. There are mountains, flat lands, rolling hills, mesas, valleys, creeks, rivers, lakes, orchards, fields with crops, pastures, caves, and the list goes on. Each state has its own beauty. Amazing!

There are many people in many areas and cultures all over the world. If you go to town, you may see people of various colors speaking their own language. You may see those who are very tall or very short. You will see some shopping alone or fathers and mothers with children. You will see workers happily at their work and others working because they have to. You will

see those quietly shopping and others who seem to find somebody to talk to. Amazing!

If you travel in other countries and areas, you will see homes like you have never seen before. Some homes are quite small, compact, and convenient. Others may be huge with many, many rooms with contents beyond your imagination. Amazing!

You will see all sizes, shapes, and colors of church buildings with various names. The important thing about our church is what takes place there each time we worship. Joy Unspeakable? Victory In Jesus? Words of truth? Jesus' commands? Amazing!

We have an amazing Creator who sent His amazing Son, Jesus, that we may have salvation and be redeemed! Wherever we live, whoever we are, we are to "Go ye therefore.....Matthew 28:19 and 20. Amazing!

Mildred Skiles
Rio Rancho, NM

MY FAMILY HERITAGE

Like many people, I was interested in my family's history. I want to know what my relatives were like and how they lived and died. With all of the technology available today, it is easy to trace your heritage.

I well remember starting out on this journey with high hopes of finding great people in my family. Not to disparage my living family, but I wanted to know from whence I came. Some of my older relatives were not very happy with my ambition and did not really help me along this line. Then one day I discovered why!

Great people were in my family, but they turned out to be great sinners. If you can think of a crime, I discovered it somewhere in my family tree. I was not happy with what I found and quickly closed the chapter on that part of my life.

I did learn something from that exercise. I learned, for one, the important thing in my life is not my dead relatives, but rather those who were still living. The importance of my family are those living now.

That brings me to the

awesome point that the family is the most important thing in society today. Society is built upon the dynamics of the family. No culture can exist for long without a healthy family structure. Perhaps this is why the family unit, as we have known it, is under attack and is quickly fading.

My experience with my family tree brought me to the point where I need to focus on my family today. Moreover, what I am today I am because of my connection with my family today.

Of course, nobody can pick his or her family unless it is an adoption situation. But we are born into a family and have no choice about that family. We are at the mercy of that family. Thinking about this I need to be more thoughtful about my family. What am I bringing to my family? How are they being blessed through me? I could let my heritage dictate my life as many people have done and are doing today. Or I could find the dynamics of my family as it exists today and set the standard.

A discouraging aspect of looking at my family brought me to the point of realizing that

my family is not perfect. Even if my family was perfect, I am not, which affects the rest of my family. If I am looking for perfection, I am looking in the wrong area.

Once I understand that my family is not perfect and that I am not perfect, I then can begin to bless my family and the best way to do that is through the Word of God. A family not based upon the Word of God is not really going to make it in the long run.

As a father, I realize the significant role I have in my family. My children and grandchildren are influenced, whether they know it or not, by my spiritual leadership in the family. I need to take this very seriously because much is at stake.

The way to do this is for me to get my act together, as they say. What is the foundation of my life? What am I doing to improve and develop my life to the glory of God?

Some people believe they can tell others what to do while not following their own advice. That does not work in the family. I do not believe a father has the right to say what his children should be doing if he is not doing

it himself. I strengthen the family dynamics as I put my faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

With this being true, this explains why there is such an attack on men and fathers today. The dysfunctional family unit that we have today is destroying the next generation and something needs to be done about it.

What we need to do is to once again bring into focus the sanctity of marriage. Regardless of what the "experts" are telling us, marriage is at the core of our society. As a Christian, I need to make sure that my marriage is centered on Jesus Christ.

I refuse to take my cues from the world around me. I am determined that all of my cues come from the Word of God. Does my family notice how much time I personally spend reading and studying the Bible? Am I setting the right example for them? And have they heard me praying for them specifically?

This whole thing began with a desire to look into my past. What I have come to is simply this. If Jesus should tarry, and the world would go on for another 100 years, what would my future relatives look back and discover about me?

I need to put in practice some spiritual disciplines that will make me the father my children need me to be. The most precious thing that I have in my life are my children. How do they see me? How am I impacting them for Christ? Am I a good father?

A good father is first of all a good husband. A good husband is a good man and a good man is someone who has committed his heart and life to the Lord Jesus Christ.

James L. Snyder
Ocala, FL

CONNECTIONS

As members of the Bible Study Board our hope in writing monthly articles related to the Adult Sunday School Lessons is that we all see afresh different points of connection that reveal the Word made flesh.

This month as we complete our study on the life of David, a few thoughts come to mind. Is it possible that when people think of us, they would say this person is a man/woman after God's own heart? When we do sin against God what is our response? Do we justify ourselves, or do we approach God's throne in submission and humility?

Sometimes it is hard for me to understand why David would be called a man after God's own heart. David was selfish, fearful, angry, lustful, and a man of war. If the story were to end here, it would be reasonable to question if David was indeed a man after God's own heart. However, much

like in our lives, God is always moving, always purifying His creation into a precious metal that reflects his image. David was also merciful, thoughtful, loving, selfless, tender, humble, and had a desire to honor God. David was a man of great highs, and just as equal lows. A man who even when his life was about to end was still making big errors in judgement. The difference, a heart that was quick to repent, quick to seek the forgiveness of God, and a heart that sought God's divine guidance.

As we begin the conclusion of this year's studies, and start contemplating what is ahead for the coming year; will our efforts

be that of David? A people who are not perfect by any stretch of the imagination, but people who have the Spirit of God Himself indwelling our hearts, seeking God's heart genuinely. May we reflect upon the life of David as an example of a purpose filled life in service to our loving Father in Heaven. A man of many flaws; but ultimately a man

of God's own heart because of a grit and determination to reject the heart of sin and exemplify the heart of God.

May God richly bless you all this coming month, and for the remainder of this year!

On behalf of the Bible Study Board
Bro. Mark Cordrey Jr.

BIRTHS

Burke & Kelsey Peters of Covington, Ohio welcomed Mia Clementine on March 23, 2025.

Jonny & Riley Rolle of Greenville, Ohio welcomed Emerson Kurt on July 29, 2025.

Micah & Lillian Rolle of Arcanum, Ohio welcomed Felicity Sue on August 13, 2025.

Oliver & Jayla Todd of Bradford, Ohio welcomed Charlotte Brooke on August 23, 2025.

Jacob & Rhoda Short of West Unity, Ohio welcomed Justin Issac on September 15, 2025.

OBITUARIES

Lawrence Rensberger

Lawrence R. Rensberger, age 94, of Ney, Ohio, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at Community Health Professionals Inpatient Hospice Center in Defiance, Ohio. Born on June 18, 1931, in St. Joe, Indiana, Lawrence was the son of

the late Ray D. and Emma “Pearl” (Sponseller) Rensberger. On March 30, 1952, he married the love of his life, Patricia A. “Pat” Core, in Williams County, Ohio, and she survives. Lawrence dedicated over 40 years of his life to Hayes Albion Trim Trends Division and was also a lifelong farmer, a calling he pursued with dedication and pride. Even after retiring, he continued serving his community, working in various roles with Central Local School, retiring after 15 years of service. He was a faithful member of Pleasant Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church in West Unity, Ohio. In his free time, Lawrence enjoyed collecting toy tractors, wood-working, tinkering, gardening, and planting trees.

In addition to his beloved wife Pat, Lawrence is survived by his three children, Barbara Ann Ford, James L. Rensberger, and John L. (Laura) Rensberger, all of Ney; five grandchildren, Jasmine (Corey) Bauer, Nick (Trisha) Fisher, Sheena (Scott) Bauer, Dillon (Alicia) Rensberger, and Dustin Rensberger; three step-grandchildren, Heather (Ben) Mavis, Sara (Bill) Fields, and Dusty (Melissa) Grine; along with numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Burl B. Rensberger; and his sister, Mary Alice Carlin.

Funeral services for Lawrence were held at Oberlin-Turnbull Funeral Home in Sherwood, Ohio on October 7, 2025, with Bro. Dennis St. John officiating. Interment followed in Sherwood Cemetery.

Mary Jo Carpenter

Mary Jo Carpenter, 57, passed away on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at Dukes Memorial Hospital in Peru, IN. She was born in Kokomo, IN on August 8, 1968, the daughter of Carl and Dorothy Armstrong Lorenz. Mary married Devin Carpenter on February 10, 1990, and he survives.

Mary was a 1986 graduate of Eastern High School and was a member of the Berean Dunkard Brethren Church in Peru. She loved Jesus, her family (especially her grandchildren), and her friends. She enjoyed baking, sewing, thrifting for her grandchild-

dren, palm trees, the ocean, flowers and her gardens, all things pink, and her Mini Cooper. She had the kind of strength that can only come from God and lived out her faith daily.

Mary is survived by her parents Carl and Dorothy Lorenz of Greentown, her husband Devin, children Tia Carpenter of Miami County, Dylan (Deborah) Carpenter of Miami County, Tiffany Carpenter of Miami County, and Deanna (Elijah) Wray of Kokomo; grandchildren Rylee Carpenter, Reece Carpenter, and Carly Carpenter; siblings Dr. Lloyd (Carol) Lorenz of Miami County, Dr. Doyle (Jane) Lorenz of Peru, Mark (Sharla) Lorenz of Howard County, Randy (Patty) Lorenz of Miami County, and Kevin (Cara) Lorenz of Colorado.

A service celebrating the life of Mary Jo Carpenter was held on October 18, 2025, at the Berean Dunkard Brethren Church, Peru, with Revs. Marlin Carpenter and Jason Carpenter officiating. Burial followed in the Kendall Cemetery, Miami County.

NEWS ITEMS

Elder - Change of Address

Fred & Diane Pifer's new address is 24524 El Paso Ave., Redfield, IA 50233.

Berean, Indiana

We welcome all to join us for Bible teaching and Lovefeast services beginning Friday evening, October 31 at 7:30 p.m. Brother Chad Meyers from the Dallas Center, Iowa congregation will be our guest minister. On Saturday, November 1 we will meet at 4 p.m. for Examination Service with a light supper to follow. Communion service will commence around 7 p.m. Sunday morning worship will be at 8 a.m. with breakfast to follow. Sunday School and Worship service will begin at 10 a.m. with lunch to follow. Please be in prayer for Brother Chad and Sister Jessica as they come to share the Good News with us and our local community.

Donna Wray, Correspondent

Quinter, Kansas

The Quinter Dunkard Brethren Church will be holding Revival Meetings beginning Sunday October 26 and concluding Sunday November 2. Brother Lyndell Noecker of the West Fulton, Ohio will be our visiting evangelist throughout the week. Sunday services begin at 10 a.m. with evening services through the week at 7:30 p.m. The closing weekend begins on Saturday morning with Examination Service at 11 a.m. followed by lunch. Communion Service will be held in the afternoon with times to be announced. Sunday services will begin at 10 a.m. with lunch following and a final service at 2 p.m. All are invited to join us for this time of revival and fellowship.

Beth Jamison, Correspondent

Leadership Conference

Officials and their wives are invited to attend the annual Dunkard Brethren Leadership Conference November 7-9 and will be hosted by the Chambersburg, Pennsylvania congregation.

Please note that the conference will not be held at the church meetinghouse but will be held at Rhodes Grove Camp, south of Chambersburg.

The address for the camp is:

Rhodes Grove Camp
7693 Browns Mill Road
Chambersburg, PA 17202

For lodging reservations please contact John & Melody Eberly via text or call at 717-552-0983 (John) or 717-552-0982 (Melody) or email at info@purpledaisydesign.com . **Please register if you plan on coming even if you don't need lodging.**

If you have any food allergies or restrictions, please let Eberlys know.

Revised Polity and Manual

Both the Dunkard Brethren Church Polity and Manual were recently revised by action of General Conference 2025. Both of these revised documents are now available on the Dunkard Brethren website at <https://www.dunkardbrethrenchurch.com/>, in the “Publications” section.

Subscription Renewal

As we approach the end of another year, it may soon be time to start thinking about renewing your subscription to the Bible Monitor. For 2026, paper subscriptions remain \$10/year. Paper subscriptions also come with a free email subscription upon request. Email only subscriptions remain \$5/year.

Please send all subscription payments to the Editor (see information at bottom of Page 2). Make checks payable to “Dunkard Brethren Church”. Please contact the Editor with any questions regarding your subscription.

Brethren Assembly Proceedings Book Released

A new book entitled “Brethren Faithfulness: Priorities In Perspective” has been released by Brethren Encyclopedia, Inc., and is now available to the public. The book contains transcripts of papers and addresses given at the Seventh Brethren World Assembly held in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, in July of 2023.

Every five years representatives of the nine largest Brethren bodies descended from the German Pietist Alexander Mack (1679-1735) gather to spend several days reflecting on their common historical roots. They hear scholarly papers, worship together, and hear what each of the groups is currently focusing on for strategic direction and growth.

This 245-page trade paperback, which retails for \$25 per copy, was edited by Maryland pastor Dan Thornton, who served as chair for the 2023 gathering. The 2023 Assembly marked 300 years since the organization of the first Brethren congregation in America in

Germantown, Pennsylvania, and 100 years of the Brethren presence in Nigeria. Therefore, speakers and scholars focused primarily on the Brethren presence in America during the 1700s.

The book opens with a chapter entitled “What Led the Brethren to America?” and succeeding chapters focus on the expansion of the Brethren movement, the challenge of the American Revolution and impact of Christopher Saur II, the legacy of Alexander Mack, Jr., Brethren attitudes toward slavery, and a summary of 100 years of the Church of the Brethren growth in Nigeria.

Brethren Encyclopedia publishes encyclopedias and monographs of Brethren interest. The group is comprised of representatives of the groups descended from Alexander Mack, which include Church of the Brethren, Covenant Brethren Church, Charis Fellowship, The Brethren Church, Dunkard Brethren Church, Conservative Grace Brethren Churches International, and three groups from the Old Order German Baptist Brethren heritage.

“Brethren Faithfulness” may be ordered from Brethren Encyclopedia’s website at www.brethrenencyclopedia.org or by contacting the organization at 5137 Waltersdorff Road, Spring Grove, PA 17362 or by calling (717) 817-6025.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR November 2025

Nov. 2 - II Sam. 23:1-39 – David's Last Words

1. How does David's oracle demonstrate his understanding of leadership and his place before God?

2. What is the significance of David mentioning his covenant with God?

3. Why would the exploits of the "three" mighty men be highlighted separately from the rest?

4. Why would David pour out, and refuse to drink the water his men risked so much to get on his behalf?

Nov. 9 - II Sam. 24: 1-15 – Numbering Israel's Fighting Men

1. What motivated David to conduct a census, and why was the manner of its completion wrong?

2. Why did David persist despite Joab's concerns, and what does this reveal about David's judgment or attitude at the time?

3. What was the event that lead to David's realization of his sin?

4. Why would David not choose a punishment when given options by God?

Nov. 16 - II Sam. 24:16-25 – David's Offering to God

1. What does the reference of Israel to sheep say about David's heart?

2. What is the significance of the altar being built on the threshing floor of Araunah?

3. What was the purpose of David's insistence of buying the threshing floor?

Nov. 23 – Psalm 30:1-12 – A Song of Praise and Thanksgiving

1. Why does prayer when in despair bring about healing?

2. How does vs 5 speak to the character of God?

3. How can our mourning be turned into dancing?

Nov. 30 - Psalm 39:1-13 – Silent Meditation Before God

1. Why did David feel the need to guard his tongue so carefully against the wicked?

2. Why does David request the Lord reveal the end of his days?

3. How can you apply David's example of guarding your speech and trusting God in moments of hardship to your daily life?

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