



Joy Mennonite Church

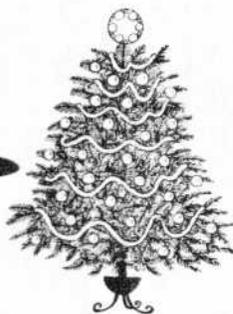
Mailing Address:

4708 OUTPOST DRIVE
SPENCER, OK. 73084
(405) 799-7836

Church Telephone No.:

DECEMBER 1992

PASTOR'S CORNER



Gratitude is a kind of warm feeling that does not take the good things we have for granted but enjoys these benefits and also feels sadness for those who are deprived of these things. We cannot be thankful and selfish at the same time. Paul tells us in Romans that the first step away from God is ungratefulness. I hope you had a good Thanksgiving and that the spirit of gratitude will be with you always.

Your Pastor, *Moses Mast*

Thankfulness is not taking God's good gifts for granted.

In April of 1990 I went with a Honduran church leader to visit some churches in the remote mountain region of southern Honduras. We arrived at the first home after dark, and there were no lights, not even a candle. We were given a plate of food which I could not see. I would feel the food on the plate and put it in my mouth. To sleep we were given a piece of plywood placed on top of the corn which was stored in one room of their house. I had no blankets, and the mountain air was chilly. I was cold all night. My gratitude was for the morning which finally came. The next day we traveled to another village. The family where we stayed had a small wooden table, a few dishes and a small hand grinder to grind corn for tortillas. They had no chairs, no furniture. Again I slept cold and was grateful for the morning. I never felt such gratitude for a warm bed as I did when I came home from this trip. I did not take a comfortable bed for granted. I still have this feeling many times when I go to my comfortable bed. I also felt a sadness for people who don't have the very basic things in order to live comfortably.

Sometimes our children take the things we do for them for granted, and instead of being appreciative they are demanding. Sometimes our children demand things selfishly and give no thought for others. Sometimes our children tell us that their friends get much better things from their parents than they do. When they do these things we say they are spoiled and ungrateful. The best thanks our children can give us is not verbal but just enjoy what we give and do for them.

IN MEMORIAM:

Abe Krause 1930-1992
With Abe's departure from this world, Christ's church lost a devout and dedicated servant.
Ruby, Carol and Brenda lost a loving and devoted husband and father.
Hydro lost an active and respected resident of their community.
Joy Mennonite Church lost a staunch and persistent supporter who loved us and always had the hand of help extended.
I lost a friend whom I loved dearly.

Rest in Peace, Abe.

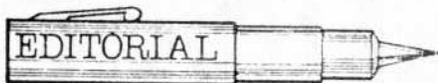
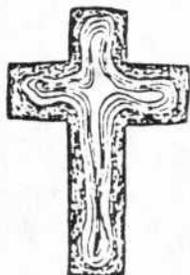
The EDITOR.



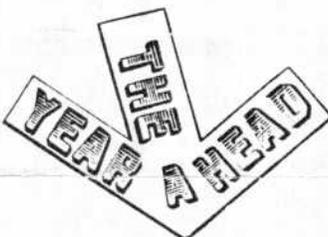
Joy Mennonite Church welcomes Gene and Jayne Hamilton and Cheryl Crichley who were warmly received into our fellowship on Sunday, 29 November. They are bringing their children to Jesus'

invitation to "let the children come unto me."

Joy Mennonite is a two-bedroom church. Our large "old residence" setting is allowing us to provide a bed for people who need short-notice/short-term accommodations. If you can, call ahead to one of the following numbers in area code 405: for Moses at 771-4743, Ralph at 733-2748, or Bill at 324-7644, to make arrangements.



With distress I read accounts of the recent conference at North Newton. The indication was that the mind set of many believes Mennonites to be above family, child or sexual abuse. The result was that no action was taken on the resolution on the issue. Let's just wait a year - maybe it will go away.



Having gotten into a proper frame of mind from Thanksgiving which we hope was enjoyed by all, let's extend this attitude into this first Sunday and subsequent Sundays in Advent. It will prepare us for appreciation of the full meaning of this Christmas season. Merry Christmas to all and best wishes for 1993.

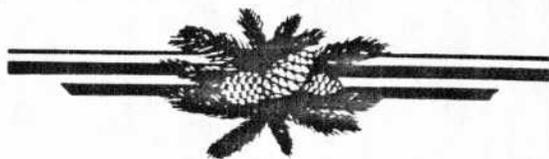
Bill Klassen



Our paster, Moses Mast, will be at the church Saturdays from 9:00 AM until noon.



Church Address: 504 NE 16th St.



COMING EVENTS

- Fri., 25 December - Christmas Day
- Fri., 1 Jan. '93 - New Years Day
- Mon., 18 Jan. '93 - Martin Luther King Day

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4708 OUTPOST DRIVE-SPENCER, OKLAHOMA 73084

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