

Joy Mennonite Church



Spring

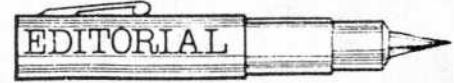
**PASTOR'S  
CORNER**

Mailing Address:

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

Church Telephone No.:

June 1993



I have some questions about how we celebrate Memorial Day. I particularly have to wonder why the church has not provided some alternatives to the business interests in the commemoration of our deceased loved ones.

As for myself, I have never put flowers on the grave of my loved ones. I grew up among a people who had a sense that the Catholic church, out of which we came, in paying tribute to our dead made little deities of some of them, to which we objected. We would not pray to a saint. We cut the grass around the graves of our loved ones and left it at that.

I, however, consider putting flowers on the grave of our loved ones a cultural custom which is neither right nor wrong, it is just the way we do it. But I could raise a question about how the church has blindly followed the secular culture in remembering our dead and has failed to provide any alternatives to the trends we would call pagan in other cultures.

We might begin by thinking about the way we bury our dead. I grew up in a culture where burying our loved ones was a spiritual experience, and we did not permit business interests to take control. What would we say about the exorbitant prices we pay to bury our dead if we saw it in another culture? What a way to show respect for a loved one.

I would like to raise a question and ask for a response from you, the readers:

Who is leading our society in the way we bury our dead and the way in which we remember them, business interests or people of the faith? Are we moving more toward spiritual experience or more toward business interests? Give us your opinions and send them to the address given in the newsletter.

*Moses Mast*

I sure blew it last month - not one word to honor and remember our mothers. Memorial Day, just now ending, wedged between Mother's Day and Father's Day, makes it appropriate to pay tribute to both now. Visiting the final resting place of many of my family members before me - at Tabor Church Cemetery - there were some tears of joy for the memory of my parents: much of that good you see in me I attribute to their care and loving. They receive no blame - I fault them none for those undesirable qualities you see in me. My capacity for love is a treasured legacy from them, for "the greatest of these is love."

If your parents live still - love them; if they are a memory - think of them lovingly.

It's amazing what, with help from the government, has happened to Memorial Day. From what I see there is no more family tie recognition - a second Veterans Day has been created at the expense of traditional values.

*Bill Klassen*

# GREAT NEWS

The "Pastors for Peace" caravan was in Oklahoma City Friday, 21 May, to Sunday 23 May, a number of them overnighing at Joy Mennonite Church. Moses and Sadie hosted and served them Sunday breakfast prior to their departure for points south - destination Nicaragua, with a truck load(s) (they will merge with several caravans in San Antonio) of donations of aid to that central American country. A number of Joy Mennonite Church members escorted them to I-35 south to give them one final "bon voyage."

Win some - lose some!! Our first Joy Mennonite Church picnic/cookout came off without a weather hitch and with

**F·E·L·L·O·W·S·H·I·P**

On the Wednesdays 2 and 9 June, Joy Mennonite's midweek meeting group will meet for visitation at Ron and Judy Perkins' home, 4244 NW 17th St. (between May and I-44). Midweek bible study will resume on 16 June, also at the Perkins residence, at 7:00 p.m.

Friday evening until Sunday morning, 18 to 20 June, is the JMC family campout at Lake Thunderbird - on the east side.

Bernie Bloom, one of the participants of the Pastors for Peace caravan, will show slides and speak of that experience at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 20 June, at Memorial Christian Church, 1915 N. Meridian Ave., following a potluck supper at 5:30 p.m.

JMC's Cheryl Crichley will tell some of her children's stories at the church, 504 NE 16th St., on Wednesday evening, 23 June, at 7:00 p.m. All are invited. Refreshments will be served.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Mon.	14 June '93	Flag Day
Sun.	20 June '93	Father's Day
Sun.	4 July '93	Indenepdence Day
Mon.	5 July '93	Celebrate the 4th
	L o n g D r y S p e l l	
Mon.	6 Sep. '93	Labor Day



We do hope that churches receiving this letter are also posting them to be seen or read.

*Joy Mennonite Church*  
 4708 OUTPOST DRIVE-SPENCER, OKLAHOMA 73084  
**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**  
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**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
 EVERY SUNDAY AT 10 O'CLOCK A.M.

CONT'D. FR. PG. 1 Church Address: 504 NE 16<sup>th</sup> ST.  
 good attendance on 1 May at Gene and Jayne Hamilton's home. Our second try, combined with our monthly business meeting at Midwest City's Regional Park was called for inclement weather. We moved indoors at the church with meeting and fellowship meal following. It was good to welcome recent church service visitors Robert and Sandra Millett with son Leon to fellowship experience.

Water got a bit deep around parts of Oklahoma City on 8 May. Another opportunity for MDS to show their love and concern, and Moses and Sadie have been right in the middle of it. They are all heart.

The Oklahoma Mennonite pastors and their wives met at Joy Mennonite Church for their quarterly meeting on Tuesday, 1 June, 1993.



Moses & Sadie Mast  
 4708 Outpost Dr.  
 Spencer, OK 73084