

Pulse of the Congregation



Newsletter of the Restored Church of Christ, Salem Branch



August, 2008

Important Dates:

- September 6: Family Field Day at Bush Park
- September 13: Youth Activity: Bowling
- September 28: Branch Business Meeting
- October 11: Fall Conference
- October 17: Harvest Party
- October 24-26: Priesthood Retreat
- Every Sunday Evening: Church History Class
- Every other Wednesday evening: Prayer & Testimony service

Family Field Day 2008

Everyone is welcome to join the congregation on September 6th for fun and fellowship at Bush Park. We will meet for a BBQ at 12:00 p.m. and then enjoy fun, games, & fellowship. Look forward to "Hill Billy Golf", Frisbee golf, tug-o'-war, and croquet. Make sure you bring lawn chairs or blankets, and bring the whole family.

Community Service:

We are in continual need of volunteers at Simonka Place. To donate food, see Brother Ron Trammell.

Great Blessings: Salem Branch Camping

The Salem Restoration Branch enjoyed a fellowship camping trip to D lake, June 27- June 29, 2008. There were a total of 35 campers from 12 different families involved. This group of Saints helped each other set up camp Friday evening, before gathering for dinner. Each of the meals shared during the end, with responsibilities shared by every member of the group.



Our youngest camper

Campfire services were held both Friday and Saturday evenings, when the saints shared together in old church camp songs, hymns, and prayers. The polar bears were up at dawn on Saturday for a refreshing dip in the lake.

A sunrise prayer / testimony service was truly a blessing Sunday morning. During the prayer service, we were richly blessed by the prayers and testimonies of Saints who often refrain, and one was even led to sing aloud.

The various recreational activities included boat rides on the lake, walks along the sea shore, and great fishing. Brothers Robert, Dave, Gene, Joshua, and Matthew caught several rainbow trout, which served as a fitting after dinner snack.



Brother Brian leads a campfire service



The sun rising on the polar bears



Several of the polar bears enjoy the water



Brother Steve tries his hand at "Hill Billy Golf"

Let me bear witness of a swelling that is happening amongst the Saints. From the days we spent in Palmyra together, to the days we spent camping as one body, the Lord is moving amongst us. From our crowded Wednesday prayer/testimony services, to our fellow-reunion, is open-heavens Be watch, behold tokens are laid before us. Our aged have found the word of God upon their tongue, and His young elders have been made to preach with power. Our morning & evening classes have been blessed with participation by both young and old, man and woman. Surely, the Lord has shown us favor in recent days and months. Let our souls be quick to find us in the fellowship of the Saints, and slow to excuse ourselves from the blessings which the Lord has seen fit to bestow upon our humble congregation. Those who have tasted of this good fruit will find understanding in my testimony, and those who have not will find an open invitation. May God bless us as we continue to grow closer to each other, and closer to the Lord Jesus Christ.



Sister Cessaries makes a joyful noise

Get to Know the Saints

This interview is with Sister Margie Rennick.

- 1) **What is your full name?** Margery May Heide Rennick
- 2) **Where were you born?** Fulton, Iowa (2/11/26). I moved to Lamoni when I was 4 years old.
- 3) **Favorite hobbies:** Ceramics, Crochet, Flowers, improving the house, going to the beach.

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4) **When were you baptized into the church?** I was baptized in Lamoni, Iowa in February of 1934 by Elder Blair Jenson. We had to break the ice and it was very cold.

5) **Favorite Color:** Lavender.

6) **Least favorite food:** Onions. That's one I can't stand.

7) **In your opinion, at what age does a person become old?** 100 years old.

8) **One thing that many people don't know about you:** My life has been according to the scriptures.

9) **The Lord permitting, what is one of your plans for the future?** I would like to walk again without a cane or walker, and with less pain. To walk by myself.

10) **List all of the former jobs you have had.** Teacher, Semi-truck for Army, Tax consultant, line-o-type operator, Strawberry pick-up, Gervais School District School Bus, Ceramics Teacher, Helped build our house, any singing all the time, electrician.

11) **If you could meet any of the deceased, who would it be?** My father, Clarence Heide.

12) **What is your favorite scripture?** Hebrews, chapter 2. "We ought to be obedient to Christ Jesus".

13) **When you think of Zion, what first comes to mind?** When I was a small child, the town of Lamoni was so much like Zion. But, my father could see what was to come. Graceland college moved towards the Community of Christ. I went to Graceland when Frederick M. Smith was president. All staff members were very committed. They told us to give our lives to the church, but, never-the-less, Graceland College moved towards the Community of Christ. Lamoni RLDS was split: The main church in Lamoni went to the Community of Christ. The Restorationists went to Decater and Mt. Ayr. Sorry that Lamoni is a real mess...that's my opinion. GOD IS LOVE!

14) **What person(s) has been most influential in your life?** My father, Clarence Heide.

15) **Who would you like to be interviewed next?** Delight Coburn.



Sister Margie Rennick

Prepare, Prepare

Words by Elder Mark Deitrick

Tune: "Londonderry Aire" ("O Danny Boy")

Prepare, prepare, for soon the Bridegroom cometh;
He will come soon to set His people free.
From up above with all the Saints of Paradise,
He'll come to earth to claim His victory.
As He descends in glory seen by all on earth,
The righteous Saints will all rise up to Him;
His beckoning call will reach the world's four corners;
And those who hear, find New Jerusalem.

Prepare your heart for soon the Bridegroom cometh;
Go out to meet Him with a lamp that's lit.
The Holy Spirit must live bright within you,
For with His strength, the Lord will find you fit.
Will you begin to seek your savior on your knees?
Will you begin to study, fast, and pray?
Will you begin to make a home for Jesus,
Within your heart, and cast all sin away?

He is our King, our Hope, our great Redeemer.
He gave Himself, to save us from our plight;
The Cornerstone of all we are to build upon,
He is the Word, dividing day from night.
Jesus, our friend in sunshine or in sorrow;
Jesus, the hope of all eternity;
Jesus, our righteousness, our only goodness;
The way of life, the truth that sets us free.

Are we the ones that He will return unto?
Are we the ones whom He will call His own,
The righteous few whom He has placed His trust upon,
The pure in heart, the people called Zion?
Does it exist? Have we done what He's asked of us?
Is it for us...this place for people pure?
Are we the wise, or are we the foolish virgins?
Are we prepared? Can you say you are sure?

We must be one; we cannot be divided.
We must tear down the walls that separate.
We are to be a body fitted perfectly;
One heart, one mind...one Spirit to embrace.
Let's come together loving just as God loves us,
Casting aside the laws and rules of man.
Freedom in Christ and in our God's great kingdom
Shall come to all who follow His commands.

Oh, Saints, let's be the people pure and holy;
The people who obey all His commands;
Who listen only for the voice of Jesus;
Who will not faint, but for their Savior stand.
For Zion is no further than our holiness;
The time is now to consecrate our lives!
Our Savior comes! We surely cannot give Him less
Than our whole lives, completely sanctified!

Something to Look Forward To

Depending upon when and where you went to school, you were probably taught at some point that mankind has evolved from some lower life form. Ben Stein, a notable historian, professor, and member of 2 presidential administrations has made a wonderful documentary which asks scientists to put evolution to the same tests that they put the creation account to. It is a "must see" documentary for every teenager and his/her parents. There will be a free, church wide, showing scheduled this fall. Keep posted and be sure not to miss it!