

Joy Mennonite Church

**PASTOR'S
CORNER**

*Happy
Valentine's Day*



Mailing Address:

4708 OUTPOST DRIVE

SPENCER, OK. 73084

Church Telephone No.:

(405) 799-7836

February 1993

We have just finished our first month of home bible studies. We began these studies in the new year. We want to offer every family the opportunity to host a bible study in their home. This gives us the opportunity to invite persons from the neighborhoods in which we live. It has also proved to be a very good way to learn to know each other better. Meeting persons in their homes and in their neighborhood can be very different from meeting them at church.

This first month we met at Gene and Jayne Hamiltons. The Hamiltons love animals. So the first greetings were by a friendly dog and his companion, a pig who thinks he is a dog. While they were fussing over us, the sheep came running up to see what was going on. We really had a wonderful setting in which to begin our studies.

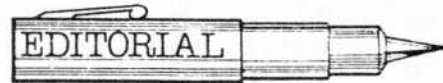
Bible study seems to be a generic term to mean more than the literal meaning suggests. The coming together provided the opportunity to fellowship. It provided a place to eat cookies and drink coffee together. It provided a place to hear and share each others' concerns. We believe it is right that the church provides for this kind of coming together. But then we also believe we must hear the word of God. To hear the word of God is more than factual knowledge of the bible. The bible is different from a mechanics manual or a handbook to turn to for prescribed answers. The word of God challenges the myths and deception of culture and national goals. The word of God challenges what we have come to recognize and call the natural person. A scriptural teaching is, "we have sinned." The natural person is the way we all have come to see ourselves as the center and defend our rights at all costs. From this center we work outward to include our loved ones, our friends and our country. God has a world view that is upside down from our natural view. To hear the word of God we must break through the myths and deception and hear another voice,

the voice of God. To break from our natural ways and turn to God's way Jesus called repentance. The invitation of Jesus was not only to repent but to become part of the new kingdom where God is king.

These are the ways in which we hope our bible study will grow. We don't see ourselves doing these very perfectly, but Jesus said the kingdom of God is like a very small seed that will grow. If anyone wishes to join us, we will do our best to welcome you.

Your Pastor,

Moses Mast



Dear Friends,

Valentine's Day

Ah yes, it is once again the month for love and lovers. No sooner had the jinglebells of Christmas faded, and the hearts started popping up everywhere. Just like the jinglebells and other trappings of their season, the lace-fringed hearts are a reminder to show love to someone with the purchase of a gift.

Coming into the new year we have celebrated receiving God's gift to us in Christ's birth, and it has cost us and our loved ones nothing. Interesting, that the more we receive and accept of that gift, the more of it we can pass on, share and give to others in the form of love, concern, respect, tolerance, understanding,

forgiveness. All this giving costs us nothing except the pain or discomfort that comes with change; the renewing of our hearts and minds in attitudes of brotherly love and acceptance, admitting the sin of our collective greed, and opening our eyes to new avenues of life and service. Will there also be sacrifices?

Bice Klassen





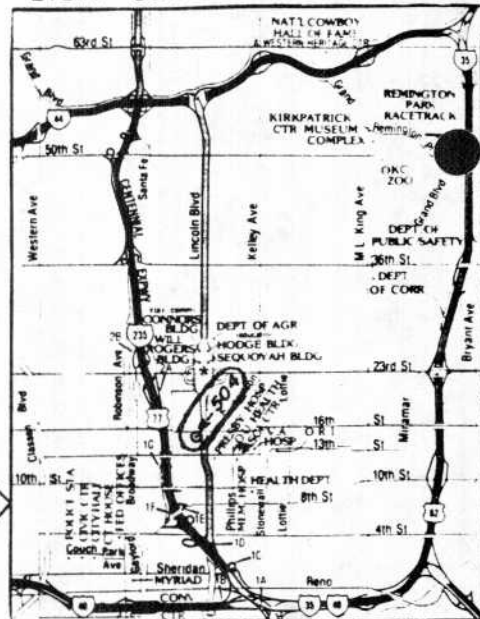
With encouragement, help and coordination from Moses and Sadie, the new year saw the beginning of mid week bible study sessions; subject matter was "The Sermon on the Mount." If we learn well from Jesus' message of love, we may develop proper perspectives on all God's people, our world neighbors and our fellow citizens.



The February sessions will be held at Cheryl Critchley's home - 5516 So. Kathy, in SE Oklahoma City. Stop in and find out (not yet announced) what we are studying.



WORSHIP SERVICE
EVERY SUNDAY AT 10 O'CLOCK A.M.



Church Address: 504 NE 16th St.

COMING EVENTS

- Sun. 14 Feb. '93 - Valentine's Day
- Mon. 15 Feb. '93 - Presidents Day
- Wed. 24 Feb. '93 - Ash Wednesday
- Wed. 17 Mar. '93 - St. Patrick's Day
- Sun. 4 Apr. '93 - Palm Sunday

Joy Mennonite Church
4708 OUTPOST DRIVE-SPENCER, OKLAHOMA 73084

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTIED

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