

# THE TIE THAT BINDS

Issue 2 Volume 5 November, 1991

## A Grandma and Grandpa Titus Story

### GOD ANSWERS PRAYER!

By Nancy Titus Fisher

Summer was ending and soon school would begin. She examined her children's meager wardrobe and sighed. If only they had more money. She hated the thought of sending her children to school in worn and patched clothing.

The Scripture verse she had read in her devotions that day troubled her greatly, also. It said that a man who did not care for his family was worse than an infidel.

Ida knew they had no money because her husband, Walter, forgot to take an offering at many of the meetings where he preached. He would be so involved in preaching and studying and soul winning that money was forgotten. After being gone for two or three weeks, he might come home with some vegetables and a chicken or two, but no money. She knew that God would continue to provide for them, but this verse seemed to be saying that Walter was sinning because he was failing to properly provide for his family.

How could she tell her husband he was sinning? He had graduated from Moody Bible Institute and was a godly man. He was so dedicated, so knowledgeable, and she felt it would be an insult for her to tell him such a thing! It was not her place to do that.

So, Ida prayed for Walter, asking God Himself to show Walter what he should be doing for his family. Several days later, Walter came to her and said he had been reading the Bible and it said that a man who did not provide for his family's needs was worse than an infidel. God had shown him that he was not caring for his family as he should financially. He was sorry and would begin to change. He did.

There was awe in her voice as my Grandmother ended this story. Over fifty years had passed and Grandpa was in heaven. I asked her how it made her feel when Grandpa told her

what God had shown him. She said she knew that God really cared about her and would answer her prayers. She knew that it was important to God what happened to her and her children. That knowledge was to be a source of strength and faith for her through the years of The Depression and the future. Now she was in her eighties and God was still using that experience to say, "I love you, Ida."

### LEUKEMIA STRIKES ELAINE TITUS

by Happy Chronister

It was recently discovered that Elaine's body has been producing too many white blood cells.

Her count has come down from 60,000 due to chemotherapy at St. Mary's hospital in Duluth, MI. She returned to Hayward on November 22nd. Once she is in remission she will have blood transfusions and have her own bone marrow treated. This treatment will probably be done in Iowa City, near her parents and daughter Pat.

Your prayers for Elaine and Rich during this time would be greatly appreciated. Already she has experienced a tremendous outpouring of love and support through prayer.

Elaine first thought she might have leukemia after reading an article in the Reader's Digest. She had all of the symptoms they listed., including bruises on her arms and legs. She had felt tired since Labor Day - but who wouldn't after working on a big wedding for months. She went in for a blood test and was contacted the next day and told to go to the hospital. The test results were confirmed a few days later that she indeed did have leukemia.

After being off chemo for over 24 hours, Elaine writes, "I feel amazingly well for having such a yucky disease. I'm receiving platelets right now to compensate for the ones destroyed by the chemo." Richard told Dave recently over the phone that he and Elaine are even more determined to do the things that they **want** to do instead of mostly the things they **have** to do.

## **STROKE STRIKES FLOYD TITUS**

by Happy Chronister

On November 19 Floyd had a serious stroke. At first we thought he was having another TIA which come several times a year. Because it lasted more than 24 hours it was determined that he had a stroke. Wednesday evening Dave Titus and Brian Chronister took him with Olive to the emergency room. Floyd was unable to talk clearly, swallow any food or liquids, or walk without help. He was put on an IV to reverse his dehydrated condition and a chest x-ray revealed that he might have pneumonia. A cat scan the next day showed evidence of previous strokes, but no new bleeding. Although his speech has improved some, he is still unable to eat or drink. Liquids run right to his lungs so he is not allowed to try to drink. A tube was put down his nose on Nov.22 so that he could be fed. He pulled it out the next day. His breathing has been very labored because his tongue often gets in the way when he lays on his back. He is on morphine to help him rest more comfortably. There is no way to tell how long he can hang on for sure - maybe hours, days, weeks, or months. The labored breathing could cause him to go into respiratory arrest or cause heart failure. The family would appreciate your prayers for comfort for Floyd and Olive.

## **CHARITY CHRONISTER BREEZES THROUGH OPEN HEART SURGERY**

by Happy Chronister

Charity had her heart surgery on November 14th. This was done to close two holes between the two upper chambers of her heart. The surgery was done by one of 8 teams of surgeons from Portland, OR who rotate through Anchorage to handle all of our local surgeries. Only two surgeons have done children so we requested the best. Dr. Star turned out to be one of the best in the nation. Normally he does very complicated procedures. (He has developed things like the "Star Valve" so doing an Arterial Septal Defect was a simple thing for him.) Charity was very brave and surprised all of the nurses with her ability to receive shots and have blood drawn without crying or screaming. After surgery she was in intensive care for 3 days and then in regular care 2 days.

She recovered remarkably fast. She had so much attention from visitors that she got sick of them. She got so many gifts from the people in our church that we needed two large carts to haul all of it to the car. She pulled Davey around the hospital halls in a wagon while she waited for Brian and I to pack up her things. She is so active it is hard for people to believe she just had open heart surgery.

When they allowed us into intensive care to see her following her 4 hour surgery she had an IV in her neck with a catheter to the heart cavity to measure the central venous pressure, an IV in each arm, one for drawing blood every few hours and the other to put morphine, fluids and antibiotics in, oxygen in a tube to her nose, 4 wires for a pacemaker into her chest which were used to get her heart beating at the right pace after surgery which was only left in as a precaution, a tube coming out of her chest to drain the area where they did surgery, a capillary counter on one finger to measure the oxygen in her blood, heart monitor buttons on her chest, a catheter, and a tube down her throat to breath for her. The night before the surgery she had wanted to go home but I had to tell her she needed to have the surgery and then be feeling better first. Within two hours of surgery they removed the ventilation tube and the first thing she said to me was, "Mommy, lets go home now. I'm feeling better." That was a little hard for me to believe, considering how she looked. Day by day they removed the above items. By day 4 she was getting on and off the bed and going to the bathroom without help. She complained for about one day that her chest hurt when she had to cough. They cut through her sternum and then wired it back shut. She will have a 6 or 7 inch scar, but that seems to be the only sign that she had surgery. We came home on Tuesday at noon and her grandpa had his stroke 30 minutes later. While mom and I were helping dad, Charity was riding her bike in the basement and then hauling her huge bags of presents up the 13 steps from the entryway. Two nights while she was at the hospital, her Grandpa Lee was there due to a reaction to his heart medicine. Both grandpas keep busy asking us how each other and Charity are doing.

Overall, our hospital experience was much easier than we expected. We were allowed to

stay with her day and night and that gave her a lot of security and us a lot of peace of mind.

### COURTSHIP STORY

We need yours? Who will write theirs next?

### WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR

**Missy Manion:** my family, the chance to go to college, my health, hot chocolate

**Josh Manion:** that I have chess talent

**Dale Manion:** my loved ones, healthy enough to run

**Ruth Manion:** Dale and his commitment and love for me, Josh and Missy and how they are teaching me to love and accept them, God and his continued love, forgiveness and grace, my deepening friendship with Marlene

**Wesley Woellhof:** that I am going to heaven

**Mary Woellhof:** good health, healthy children and a year without Wes in the hospital

**Cara Woellhof:** my home, our dogs, my country and freedom

**Rita Woellhof:** my family and my home

**Edwin Woellhof:** my mom and dad

**Paul L. Woellhof:** for my wife, food and shelter, and the privilege of working in God's kingdom

**Elinor Woellhof:** First of all I am thankful for my Saviour who made it possible for us to have freedom from sin. I'm thankful for my husband, our children and our grandchildren.

**Happy Chronister:** that Charity's surgery is over and that she healed so quickly

### NEWS FLASHES

**Phil and Lola Gregory** were chosen as the "old-timer's couple" of the Stone Lake community. They led the parade down Main Street for the annual Cranberry Festival on Oct. 5th. Tra-

ditionally this couple rides in a horse drawn carriage or an old model car.

**Walt and Jean** surprised **Phil and Lola** with a visit on Sept. 2 before going to Hoinville to fish. On the 9th they spent the day together fishing. This was the first time Phil had gone fishing in 20 years and he caught quite a few. The four spent Sept. 14 and 15 together with other relatives before Walt and Jean started their homeward journey.

Two of Phil and Lola's great-grand-daughters insisted on coming into the world feet first. **John and Gina** are the proud parents of **Jessica Lynn** who was taken by C section on the morning of July 5th. The following evening, July 6th **Bob Gregory** took **Kathy** to the hospital. **Rebecca Anne** was also delivered by C section as she insisted on coming rump first. The mothers and the "twin cousins" are doing quite well.

**Scott and Patti Gregory** were back in Stone Lake to visit the last week in July and spent a belated honeymoon in a little cabin owned by Judy's folks on Little Sand Lake. This was the only time Patti could get time off. Another company bought out the company Scott works for and they are moving it to other headquarters, eliminating the office in Fort Wayne, so Scott is looking for another job. Please remember him in your prayers.

**Pat Titus and Tom Palechek** were married September 28, at the First Presbyterian church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Some people commented that the music was the best they had ever heard at a wedding. **Steve and Barbara Swanson** as well as **Marlene Bateman** sang. An interesting difference from most weddings was that this wedding was officiated by a woman. Many guests enjoyed the fact that the gifts were opened the following day at the motel where many of them were staying. Tom and Pat are living in Iowa City.

For the 3rd time in the past year, **Floyd and Olive Titus** spent 30 days outside of Alaska. On September 25 they flew to Milwaukee where Ruth and Dale met them and took them

to Janesville to stay with Swansons. They attended Patty's wedding in Iowa and traveled to Indiana. They had dinner at Cindy and Darrell Powell's with Dorothy and Frank Underwood and Walt and Jean. October 3 and 4 they traveled with Walt and Jean in their motorhome to Asheville, N.C. to visit Paul and Betty and family. From there they flew to Austin, Texas to visit many friends at the New Hope Wesleyan church and Marlene and Ron Bateman. Olive was privileged to play scrabble with most of her main competitors from former years.

Some time ago, Floyd went to Dr. Skille who discovered that Floyd was blind in his left eye. While on the trip to Pat's wedding he lost some of the vision of his right eye and was not able to recognize people or enjoy the autumn colors as they travelled to Asheville. Hoping that some of his vision could be regained he saw an eye doctor and a retina specialist. They determined that there was no help for his sight, but that it will not get worse. He can no longer see well enough to enjoy watching TV or tell what time it is, but he is thankful that he can see well enough to get around.

**Dan and Jody Titus** had their second son, **Trae John Titus** on September 9th. He weighed in at 9 lbs, 11.5 oz.

**Josh Manion** has made "master rating" in chess ahead of schedule. He is now in the top 1% of chess players in the U.S. He is 3/4 of a year ahead of his schedule.

The **Chronisters** had a stroke of bad luck. When marking the computer with Brian's drivers license to make it easier to find if stolen, the hard drive bombed - meaning it erased all of the information stored in the computer. Included in the material lost was the first draft of this newsletter. It was done except for corrections to spelling and Walt and Jean's trip. This is said to account for why it has taken so long to get to you. This occurred two days before Charity's surgery and then Floyd's stroke added additional stress. So look forward to the next issue which will have some great recipes and an article by Happy on Assimilation and Participation which won't be retyped for this issue.

From **Rose Titus**: "This has been an unusual year for me. I lived with "my boys" (teenagers) for 6 months, but am now in my own apartment again. I need to write a major letter to everyone I know!!" Rose visited Pat and Jo at the end of October and Jane was there too.

From **Paul Titus**: "We are enjoying our new grandson, Jason. He is nearly a year old, very active and full of personality. Our only regret is that they are 115 miles from here. Maybe that's a blessing in disguise.

**Bryan Titus** had another crash on his bicycle on July 28. He was in a race and went down on the course. He was unconscious for about 45 minutes even though he had a helmet on. He broke a rib, punctured a lung and broke his right clavicle which required surgery to set. He is nearly well again and is back in college. I think his doctor has convinced him to give up racing but not riding.

**Kevin and Rachel Titus** are still adjusting after 8 months of marriage. They have done a lot of work on his house. Rachel has given it that "womanly" touch by hanging new wall paper and making new drapes. She is an excellent seamstress.

From **Joanne Stewart**: I started working part-time at a Kmart store in May. (I worked for them in NY, too.) We got to take a short vacation at the beginning of July. We went to Mammoth Cave in Kentucky, and drove back through Fort Knox so Jacob could see where he was born. Our kids got to spend two weeks in the country with friends of ours from N.Y. state who have a boy Jacob's age. We got to spend two weeks alone - when we weren't at work, that is.

**Steve** got to go to the Army's Master Fitness Course here at Ft. Harrison this summer. It was a 4 week course for which he got 9 hours of college level Physical Education credits. He ran in three 8-10 mile runs in Indianapolis this summer, played softball, and got talked into trying golf for the first time in his life. He finds it fun, but expensive! He has enrolled in the Indiana Wesleyan University's LEAP program (Leadership Education for Adult Professionals)

and is planning to get a Bachelors degree in business Administration. He is finally getting to use his GI Bill. Recruiting did not allow him the time to go to school that he now has with his new teaching assignment.

The war did not affect us too much last winter. Steve had to spend some time at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio helping to load planes headed for Saudi Arabia. We had friends who were over there whom we were concerned about, but they all came through unhurt, thank God.

**Jacob** is in the 3rd grade this year and **Leanna** started first grade.

From **Nancy Fisher**: We have returned to Hilliard for our 2nd year of ministry here. Last year our average attendance for Sunday morning worship service went from about 8 to 35. When we moved here they were only having one service a week. The church had been through a traumatic experience with the former pastor and there was discussion about whether to close the church. We became convinced the Lord wanted us to come here. We didn't know how long we would stay but we felt the desire to help these people. By Oct. we had enough children coming that we started having Jr. Church. Since we didn't have S.S. we didn't want to lose the children, it seemed the thing to do. The Lord gave one of the ladies a desire to do this. I helped. It has been the major factor in our children's ministry. We now have some teens attending church.

In July we had VBS for a week in the evenings. Our enrollment was 33. We have at least 5 new children and youth coming to church now as a result. About a dozen of the children prayed to receive Christ.

On Sept. 8th we started Sunday School, a Sunday evening service and that week began a Wed. evening Bible study. It has been going well so far. I am teaching the teen class. Our Sun. evening and Wed. evening services have small attendance but we expected that. We are having them for the people who want them and we are not worrying about numbers. They are more for Christian growth and discipline.

One prayer request is for wisdom and guidance. As God is blessing, the devil is seeking to destroy one of the main families of our

church. We are saddened as we see it happening. We are claiming the promise of 1 John 3:8 - "that Jesus Christ came to destroy the works the devil has done." We are reminded again that Satan's most powerful weapons are the sins of Christians.

Another prayer request is for our financial and work situations. As always we need more of the former and less of the latter! As you know, it is difficult to do all you need to do for your spouse and the people in your church when the majority of your time and energy is spent making money at a job the main purpose of which seems to be the disabling of your body and the annihilation of your brain power. (Now, that sounds like a typical Titus description, doesn't it?) In Florida you get paid less for this than in most other parts of the country.

In Dec. 1990 Harold was elected President of the Hilliard Ministerial Alliance. Also Harold has preached for many special or revival meetings in Penn. This past spring he was asked to preach for a meeting at one of the F.M. churches here in Florida. The pastor and wife said they were both really helped as a result of Harold's preaching. The minister who started the church said it was the most he had seen the Holy Spirit move in the church since it was started. Harold would like to do more meetings, so another prayer request would be for God to show us His will in this.

In August we escaped from our jobs for a much needed vacation. We visited relatives and friends in Tenn., Ind., N.Y., and Penn. We attended the Free Methodist Praise '91 at Toberts Wesleyan College in North Chilli, NY, where Harold went to college. We attended a concert by Larnelle Harris which we enjoyed very much.

We enjoyed visiting Patsy and Steve, Dallas and Marty, and the Underwoods although, once again, the "mythical" Darrell eluded us! From there we visited Joanne and Steve, Jacob and Leanna, in Indianapolis. Joanne took us on a short tour of Ft. Benjamin Harrison where Steve is stationed.

From **Dorothy**: **Frank** and I are enjoying his retirement. It's nice to be able to go when we want. Darrell and Frank are beginning to work on our apartments. Big Job!!!

**Ellenruth Underwood** had surgery recently. The doctors say it will take six weeks to recover. It all worked out in the end.

**Jared Powell** is going to pre-school and learning his ABC's and numbers. His vocabulary is increasing rapidly.

**Linda Underwood** is engaged and is planning a small spring wedding. Her fiancé is Brian Crume. Brian is in the Army Reserve, does construction work during the summer months and attends Purdue University in the winter months. He is working toward a degree in History and he wants to teach high school students. He is 5'11" - slender, with dark hair, brown eyes and a dark complexion. (Marcia is making progress, but it is not yet ready for public knowledge - still "Top Secret.")

From **Elinor Woellhof**: I said in the last newsletter that I was going to work until I was 65. We decided in July to quit my job so we ended my night job on August 24. We don't miss our cleaning job one bit.

When **Cara Woellhof** was asked what she likes best about school she said she likes her friends and the fact that you can talk about God and learn about Him. **Cara, Rita, and Edwin** go to an ACE school. Cara learned to play tennis in the city recreation program this summer. In the finals for singles she placed 1st as well as first in the doubles with another girl. Rita and Edwin were on separate soccer teams this summer also.

**Edwin**, age 9, gives these reasons for enjoying living in the country: because there are animals and chickens. You can go out and play in the little forest. I can shoot my B.B. gun a lot more where I can't in town.

The **Paul J. Woellhof** family made a trip in August to Kansas and to Arkansas to visit friends, Wesley and Paul's parents, Paul L. and Elinor Woellhof.

**Art Titus** is in school training as an EKG Technician. He will go for 9 months, 4 days a week. He is doing well and is getting experience

along the way. **Angie** is in St. Petersburg since they closed her store in Tampa. She isn't much farther away, but she has to go down Hwy. 19 and that is hard driving. They live about 40 miles away from Walt and Jean.

**Patty and Jim Titus'** twin girls are growing up. Walt and Jim took them trick or treating and they had a great time. Probably they had tummy aches with all the candy they got. They are doing pretty well in their "big girl panties". They had quite a time training them. They put them on potty chairs at the same time and they were so happy together talking and checking to see what the other one had done that it was difficult for them to concentrate. One of the joys of twins! Jim and Patti have done a great job raising the girls according to Grandma Jean. The girls are well behaved. They live 20 miles from Walt and Jean.

**Glen and Shirley Rushill** are busy in their church at Willow Creek. Shirley is working 2 half days in the Day Care. Derek goes in a class and it's so good for him to have someone to play with.

### **50th Wedding Celebration for Phil and Lola Gregory** by Lola

Paul and Wanda Gregory and her mother arrived from Montana Aug. 13 and spent a busy week with Judy and Edgar planning and preparing to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. One day Wanda and Judy took me shopping and bought me a beautiful pink dress and matching stockings and slippers, and a pink shirt and complimentary tie for Phillip.

The time of the celebration was August 18, 2:00-4:00 PM at the White Fish Church where Edgar and Judy attend. (The church has good accommodations for such activities.) They planned a short program with their pastor, Bob Thrasher who was in charge. At the end we repeated our wedding vows. At a moment of hesitation, Phil took it as a cue to kiss the bride, so he did. Bob said, "Well, you got a little ahead of things, but let's proceed." When I got done with my part, Bob let Phil kiss the bride again.

Several estimated that there were at least 150 or more in attendance although only 125

signed the guest book. We received 65 cards by mail and at our celebration.

### **REQUEST FOR ARTICLES**

We would like to remind you that we need you to send in your News Flash items or articles to Ruth. Please date your news so that it can be adjusted if it tells # of months or ages etc. The next deadline is March for our April newsletter. We appreciate your contributions. Send to:

**Ruth Manion  
1403 N. Lexington  
Janesville, WI 53545**

### **DEVOTIONAL CORNER**

by Elinor Woellhof

"The destined end of man is not happiness, nor health, but holiness."

"We do not receive from God any more than we voluntarily seek after."

"We're guilty of making faith the size of our own resources."

"Don't be disillusioned into believing God will answer even though we don't pray."

"I'd rather go to the altar forever than to go to hell once."

"Holiness will be popular in the judgment."

"Every sinner robs God of something He wants."

"Complaining is the first sign of loss of spiritual love to Christ."

### **FROM THE PASTOR'S PAGE**

by Paul Titus

As I was reading an autobiography a metaphor caught my attention. The author described herself as "living under the sign of an exclamation point!" It was her way of saying that her life was filled with enthusiasm and whatever she did was done with intensity. She went on to describe how this carried over into her life as a Christian after her conversion. How are you living your Christian life? Is it lived under a question mark? Always doubting and wondering?

Maybe it is filled with commas, always hesitating, groping for clarification. Or is it accented with parentheses, always fitting in the gaps to explain why life is like it is. Maybe it is filled with quotation marks, saying what someone else has said, but never sure of your own witness.

We need more people who live their lives under an exclamation point. Will you be one?

### **Bits and Pieces from Uncle Walt**

While stopped at a stop sign, Marcus told his grandpa he wanted him to drive him through Chicago. Walt asked him why, to which Marcus replied, "I like to hear you call 'em (other drivers) idiots."

Walt has been heard to say when impatient or tired of waiting, "Don't just sit there and pick the fuzz out of your belly button!"

As told by Walt: A kid came out of the men's room and said, "It must be awful growing old. One old guy couldn't get it started, and another couldn't get it stopped."

### **TRAVEL LOG BY JEAN TITUS**

A report of our 6 week+, 4,000+ mile trip through 12 states in an RV is no small task. It was a very special trip.

Walt designed the plan between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00 AM. He had all summer to count miles, find RV places to overnight at and check where relatives were so we could see all the friends and relatives possible. It was a monumental job and well done.

Our trip was late in the summer because of his 50th H.S. reunion in Charles City, Iowa which was scheduled for Labor Day weekend. He actually graduated from Bureau Township in Ill. Each year of H.S. was taken in a different state. Freshman - Hayward, WI, Sophomore - Miltonvale, KS, Junior - Charles City, Iowa, and Senior - Bureau Township, Ill. He had gone to school in Charles City from Kindergarten to 5th grade also. He wrote the alumni director and got permission to join them. He went armed with his Junior yearbook and a picture of his 5th grade class at McKinnley School. We went to my 50th H.S. reunion in '87 and I had such a good time, he wanted to try it too. He was not

disappointed. There were several he knew (when he asked them their name). You see he studied that yearbook during the night when he couldn't sleep.

There is a new Wesleyan Church in Charles City. We attended 2 services on Sunday. We also attended a 50th wedding anniversary of Wallace and Genevive Steele. It was a surprise that Ruth Krueger and the Steele boys planned for Wallace and his wife. That was the Sunday afternoon we were there. He saw Mrs. Harry Howell, (now married), Wayne Skyrme and wife, Wilbur and Harriet HOWELL, Ted and Miriam Stewart from Calif., Kenneth Stewart and Evelyn Buckner. While there were not many still living who remembered Grandpa and Grandma Titus in the church it was a special occasion for Walt. Somehow, through the years I had picked up that really no place he had lived seemed like his childhood home. The visit to Charles City enabled him to drive down some roots - or so it seemed to me. It was a very special time.

I was in such a hurry to get to Charles City, I forgot to tell you, we spent one evening with Shirley's teenagers - Matt, Marcus and Bradi in Moline, Ill. We went out to eat pizza and then went bowling. The next evening we spent with Pat in Iowa City. We didn't meet Tom, but we had a nice visit with her.

We also visited Bily Clock Museum in Spillville, Iowa. Walt and Garl Beaver had been there in 1945 probably. Walt wanted me to see them. It was amazing. These Czechoslovakian men were living when he was there. They were bachelor farmers with 5th grade educations who carved cases for clocks. They never traveled more than 35 miles from home. They never sold any of them even though Henry Ford offered one million for one of the clocks. Beautiful and amazing! See it if you can. It's worth your time. He made the replica of the Little Brown Church (40 miles away) but from pictures. They were never there. The brothers are both dead now - dying in '64 and '65.

Our next point of interest was Stone Lake with Phil and Lola. They sent us on to "the Lake" after 24 hours loaded down with fresh garden veggies and worms to fish with.

Fish we did! It was cold and rainy. I went too, even though fishing had never been my favorite

"dish." You would not believe how I looked with long john's, jeans, undershirt, blouse, sweater, sweat sack, complete with hood. I was a sight - I could have rolled either way. When it started to rain Walt threw me his plastic raincoat which I put on backwards. I reached around and buttoned it down the back. It kept my legs warm and dry. The fish (Northern) didn't care how I was dressed I guess because I caught my share. I like fishing for Northern. I don't have to put worms on and feed those Blue gills.

The most exciting day was dragging on slow - throw it out - reel it in - and slow up a little as you come to the boat - 'cause one might follow it in - Walt said - so I was reeling close in when WHAM - something hit that bait - splashed water all over me - took my line out so fast it burned my finger and thumb - and broke my line clear off up in the reel. Now if that buzzard had come on into the boat I guess Walt would have had me to fish out of the water. I almost had a cardiac! - and he took my special dare devil.

Phil and Lola came over on a Monday. Walt and Phil had good luck with blue gills. Walt fixed them a pile of fish and they brought fresh corn and cut it off - fresh beans too. It was such a special day.

Thursday we had Rich and Elaine for a fish dinner and we spent the evening together. It's always a treat to visit with nephews and nieces.

Saturday we went back to Phil and Lola's for the week end. Edgar and Judy came over as well as Bob and his wife and family. They have a baby girl only a few weeks old and I got to hold her and put her to sleep. Yes it was a full, happy weekend as we planned with Phil and Lola their trip to Florida this winter. We are excited about that.

Monday we went through Mason Shoe and Boot Factory. That was interesting and then we went on to Owen, WI where Walt lived when he was 4 years old. He had never been back since then. He knew Dad worked in a box factory. He knew he and another little boy sneaked into the Catholic church and he remembered teasing a little girl (who lived across the alley) pretending to take her penny. She cried and her Dad came out and scared Walt - pretending he was going to get him. He stomped his feet and Walt ran home as fast as his legs would carry him. There



was a low area at the alley and he passed out in the ditch. That scared the big man who picked Walt up and carried him home. Walt was clear out. Those are the only memories Walt had of Owen, other than Vera died there.

The next day while I did the laundry Walt, armed with a camera headed out to find the Catholic church. He met an old man who directed him to the old Catholic church built in 1920. He reasoned that they lived near or he and his friend would not have sneaked into it. He thinks he found the 2 story house and the alley with the "big ditch". Of course the ditch was not nearly so deep as he remembered. He also found the box factory which is still in operation. He took pictures. Maybe the pictures will help someone else verify what He thinks he found. Do you see why we had such a wonderful time?

We visited John and Diane and spent another special evening with family and memories of the past!

We visited Harry Johnson most of the next day. Florence and LaVaughn came down to Stoughten where Harry is in a nursing home. He was so happy to see us. Florence was there in the afternoon. We spent that evening with Manions and Swansons and another unplanned surprise - Wilbur and Betty Wolfe. Can you imagine so many unplanned specials besides the planned ones? That's just like the Lord to slip some surprise packages in on an already special trip.

We spent a week with Glen, Shirley and Derek. Derek calls Walt "Pa". He's 3 years old. Then we went on to Marion, still on schedule. We were there one week and saw so many friends plus my bother and wife and nephew and nieces and their growing families.

Floyd and Olive arrived that week and stayed at Dort's. We all spent a great evening with Cindy and Darrell and family. She baked bread for us and even made another loaf while we were there.

We had a nice visit with Steve, Patsy and the boys. They are doing a tremendous job there in the church. We miss them down here.

Floyd and Olive traveled with us to Paul's in N.C. Denise and her big boy were there. He's as heavy at 10 months as the twins are at 2 1/2. He's not fat either - he just is a big guy that's as

happy as a bird!

The three brothers were together that weekend which very well could be their last time on earth. Miles separate us all now - BUT soon we'll be together. It won't be long. It could be very soon. For that trip we won't have to pack and wonder what we'll need, and no stops over night on the way to the Celestial City where we'll live forever singing His Praise around the Lord's throne. What a Day!

From N.C. we headed for Florida and stopped at Hilliard at Nancy and Harold's. We went out to eat and then home to Spring Hill. That's it. If Walt had written this you can bet it would not have been this long.

## OUR TRIP TO WASHINGTON

by Paul and Elinor Woellhoff

**Paul** - On September 9, 1991 Elinor and I boarded the Amtrak train at Lincoln, Nebraska, headed for Charlotte and Eddie's house. We returned on Sept. 25th. Amtrak is the way to travel if you go over the right track. All Elinor and I had to do was hold hands, snack and watch the beautiful scenery go by. We were unaware that after you leave Denver the engineer takes each curve and precipitous terrain situation with almost care even to creep along. While the train hugs the mountain and with sheer space on the other side, the feeling is different than going across Kansas plains. It probably would have been safer letting Eddy fly us across the mountains.

Anyway, we had one wonderful carefree time. Charlotte, Eddy and Rachal live in a valley area watered by the Columbia River which makes the land very productive. The Mattson's hospitality and Charlotte's good cooking nearly put a pound or two on us. They took us on sight-seeing trips which were so different from Kansas. Seeing the Grand Coulee Dam in its magnitude and intricacies was worth the whole trip.

**Elinor** - While at the Grand Coulee Dam we went into the Tourist Information Center. Before leaving it I signed our name in the guest book. I looked over the names on two pages and saw this name, "Laurence and Donna Titus" from Burlington, Iowa. Right away I wondered if they were some of our relation.

We took our picnic supper with us so we could see the program they showed with "laser beams". I think it was 8:30 PM when they began the program. Everyone sat on bleachers facing the Dam. They opened the big valves so the water could come over the Dam with a 50 ft. drop. The "laser beams" portrayed the story of why they built the Dam. The beams were pictures of people, horses, buildings, boats, water and whatever else was in the story. The beams were in color so it was very pretty across the water as well as interesting.

Eddy took Charlotte and me up in one of his airplanes, so I got to see Quincy and the countryside from above. We went over by their house. I didn't have any side effects from going up and I enjoyed it.

During our visit it was harvest time for most of the field crops. Some of the crops are raised to go to seed so the seed can be sold to "gardeners" in the other parts of the U.S.A. There are lots and lots of orchards with apples and plums. I used to think that prunes were dried plums, but not so. They raise prunes on prune trees, blue and yellow ones. If we had had our car we could have brought home bushels of pears.

The train ride was great, but scary at times. I enjoyed the rock formations along the way. We did get tired of riding so long.

#### CHESS WHIZ COMPETES NATIONALLY

by Ruth Manion

Josh Manion had a great opportunity to put to work some of the strategies he had recently learned at the American School of Chess in N.Y.C. when he played chess in L.A. this summer. Josh played in the U.S. Open, the granddaddy of chess tours, and the Denker High School tour. This year, there were 650 entrants in the U.S. Open and he ranked 168th. He also represented WI at the national high school tour where he finished 4th in the nation.

While in L.A. we got the rare opportunity to hear Gary Kasparov, the world chess champion from Russia speak and also to see lots of the U.S.'s best chess players compete. It was great exposure for Josh and we got to go along for the ride because we paid most of the

bills. Since someday Josh hopes to play professionally, maybe he will pay the bills.

Recently Josh won first place in the UW - Fall Open in Madison and has been hired to tutor three students in chess.

#### FLORIDA FLETCHERS FIND FAIRMOUNT

by Steve & Patsy Fletcher

After spending 11 years in Florida, we are now "back home again" in Indiana. Having accepted the call to Fairmount Wesleyan as pastor - we bade a tearful farewell to Florida and our parents, and made the move back to the cold north. (OK - so it's not quite as far north as Alaska - but its COLD and NORTH to us!)

We have really enjoyed our first 2 months in Fairmount. The church is doing well and we have discovered many wonderful people in our congregation. (Not the least of whom happen to be relatives!) Cindy and I have had a good laugh over the fact that I am now her "pastor's wife". Hopefully, I'll have a more positive influence on her now than I did when we were in college together!

Steve is enjoying the challenge of pastoring a church three times the size of the one we had in Florida - and appreciates the many dedicated and willing workers. We are also happy to be near Joanne in Indianapolis, and Steve's sister, Linda, in Marion, and his brother, Rick, in Ft. Wayne.

Marty is looking forward to seeing snow for the first time, and Dallas enjoys being close to most of his cousins. (I'm not sure if he enjoys being the only boy in his CYC class of 16 - but he doesn't seem to mind!)

It was real hard to leave mom and Steve's folks, but they are happy for us and are glad we are doing the lord's work. And of course, we have the Underwoods to look after us!

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