

“Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.” (Amos 8:11)

Amos gave a very somber message to the Israelites in this verse. It was about the judgment of a spiritual famine. We note the cautioning about judgment, the character of the judgment, and the coming of the judgment.

Cautioning about the judgment. “Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God.” The warning is to give time for people to repent and thus avoid the judgment. God is ever doing this. The trouble with people is they seldom heed the warnings. But when judgment comes, everyone will be without excuse and really have then no basis for complaining; for God has duly warned mankind of the coming judgment.

As you read this I'm sure just like me you have loved ones as well as others you know of who have not heeded God's warning. Let us never give up praying and asking God to move in their hearts and minds bringing them to repentance and confession of faith in Jesus. Let us ask God to put that person (us or someone else) who through the power of the Holy Spirit can help open their spiritual eyes.

Character of the judgment. “I will send a famine...of hearing the words of the Lord.” This is not what we usually consider a famine. Usually, we think a famine is one of physical food. But this judgment is a famine of spiritual food. In the time of Amos this was considered to be the removing of preaching and teaching of the Word of God from the land. This judgment would remove the Scriptures from society. It will take the Bible away from man. It is one of the worst judgments for mankind.

We might wonder if God has not pronounced the same judgment upon our country and other countries. I'm always so thankful to see each person in worship Sunday as well as other times of spiritual renewal such as Bible study, etc. The importance of coming together to worship and to study as well as fellowship cannot be over emphasized or if you prefer encouraged. So many shut-ins who share with me wish they could manage to come to worship with us. The heart of a Christian loves to listen, talk, and acknowledge the spiritual things of God.

Coming of the judgment. This judgment finally came to Israel because they did not repent. Some day Christ will return in all His glory because He promised it would be so. People walked in spiritual darkness in Israel as the prophecy from Amos was fulfilled.

The same prophecy seems to be happening in our land. The Bible is ruled out of school and society by our courts. Churches are barren of the Word. The minister no longer majors on preaching and teaching the Word. Rather, he is a public relations man, a decorative piece at

social events, and someone to have handy to marry and bury people. The pulpit is empty, and the Sunday School classrooms are staffed many times by people who do not know the Word and cannot teach it. The church program majors on entertainment, not on Bible exposition. Ignorance of the Bible prevails. It is time to repent and turn back to God and His Word.

I encourage all of you to rethink “church” and it’s importance for you, loved ones, and society. It may not seem often times that we are making difference, but I believe we are.

With every deed we do together, every time we give of out tithes and talents, every time we witness our faith in Jesus and out love for Him, we are making a difference. Seeds are sown and we don’t always get to see the harvest. Yet, we have helped to make a difference. Once again I would encourage you to offer help to making out times together refreshing for all. Volunteer to help in the nursery, with Sunday School, Bible Study attendance, maybe even starting a small group Bible study (see me for affirmation), and make Sunday worship attendance a priority in your mind and heart.

God bless!
Pastor Les

Rich or broke, Saint or sinner,
Some are fat, some are thinner,
Brave or chicken, loud or quiet,
Some who sell, some who buy it;
Big or little, drunk or sober,
Blonde or dark, lazy, loafer;
Eager beaver, adolescent,
Bright or dull, effervescent;
Middle-aged or just beginners,
Tired losers, constant winners;
All the victims of the fall,
Jesus loves them...one and all.



RANSOMVILLE CHURCH



The Post Office, in the future will have four postal vehicles that will be parked in the parking lot on Sunday's. With the snow season coming, I feel that the parking lot should give priority to those vehicles of families who are handicapped, elderly or families with young children. Everyone else who is healthy should park on the streets.

If you enjoyed the Hymn Sing that we had on September 6, 2009 and would like to have another one, please contact Hap Skellen or Doug Diez. We asked that you give us a song or songs that you would like to have sung. We will dig up the history on the song and the author. When we get enough songs, we will plan another date for a Hymn Sing.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The income to date for this year is very close to other years; and we are meeting our expenses. Our apportionments to the conference are not up to date but we are doing what we can according to our income. Income to date: \$44382 and expenses to date: \$44631. A copy of this report will be on the shelf in the foyer.

CAPITAL FUND CAMPAIGN FOR CHURCH ROOF: We will start our fundraiser for this project starting this fall. At this point it appears that we will not be doing any work until next spring. More information will be coming when the Trustees report to the Administrative Board.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

October 24, 2009 – in the Fellowship Hall – Fundraiser

Tickets are available from the Church Secretary – Bev Chauvin or from church members. They will also be available at the door. Watch for notice in the foyer and around the community. We will need helpers and donations of desserts. Help support this fundraiser and your church by selling tickets and promoting this venture.

SHELL POINT STAMP MINISTRY

Please save your used postage stamps. Saving used stamps contributes to the spiritual formation of children and young people in Latin America.

The Stamp Project sponsors *Publicaciones Alianza* (Alliance Publications) is located in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The income from the stamp sales goes to support the preparation, publishing and distribution of a Spanish-language curriculum for Sunday Schools in Latin America. More than 50 lesson series have been published and are being used in church of 40 different denominations and missions in 19 Latin American countries.

To save a stamp, the stamp should be carefully cut out from the envelope, leaving at least ¼" margin around the stamp. Do not use stamps that are torn or wrinkled. Stamps may be given to Shirley Schroeder or put in the box in the church entry. Stamps can be saved all year, including Christmas stamps.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child is a worldwide missions project through Samaritan's Purse. Our churches have been participating in this project over the past few years. The mission is to demonstrate God's love through gift-filled shoeboxes. This mission brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes and Good News of God's love. Flyers with instructions will be available in the entry soon.

CLOTHING DRIVE

During the village's annual Lighting of the Wreaths, we will be having a used clothing drive. Please look through your closets for clothes you no longer wear. This is for clothing only.

MANUFACTURES COUPONS

Please continue to save uncut manufactures coupons. These are taken to the Disabled American Vets Auxiliary to be sent to the different military bases. Please put the coupons in the box in the entry.

FOOD PANTRY

There is a container in the foyer to drop off non-perishable food for the Food Pantry. The first Sunday of each month has been designated as Food Collection Sunday.

HUNGRY CHILDREN OF THE USA

Ransomville UMW is having a mission project to raise money for "Hungry Children of the U.S.A. There are many thousand of children going hungry in our country. 100% of the proceeds will go to UMCOR Hungry Children of the U.S.A. We are having a "Bakeless Bake Sale" in other words instead of baking something and taking it to a bake sale and then buying someone else's baked goods, just donate money. From September 27th – October 11th. At Ransomville, money may be given to Nancy Trank, at Fillmore Chapel, money may be given to the person they announce at church. Please be generous!

CHRISTMAS PLAY

Any children interested in being in this year's Christmas Play please contact Carol Houwaart Diez. Also she is looking for adults to assist.

RANSOMVILLE CHOIR

To everyone who likes to sing: Will you please join us in "making a joyful noise unto the Lord?" Come to Choir rehearsal on Wednesday evenings @ 7:45 PM. We are looking for singers 6th grade through Adult. There will be no choir singing on October 11, 2009.

ANGEL CHOIR

To all parents of little ones 3 years through fifth grade, we would love to have your children/grandchildren join us in the Angel Choir. We rehearse most Sundays @ 11:00 AM (after coffee hour) for approximately one half hour. We will not be rehearsing on Columbus Day weekend, October 11, 2009.



Fillmore Chapel



It only takes a spark to get a fire going...a spark...has that spark come to us. The last four weeks we have had a great mix of different services...hymn sing, outdoor services, food and fellowship...and in the wood service last Sunday with the adult group. God is with us where we are, we are planning more events, rummage sales, bake good sale servicing food at events, the talk of dinners, youth group, Bible Study returning, the talk of a new memorial garden and more people showing an interest in the church and what is happening.

God had given us more challenges, the roof, and now the furnace. We roll up our sleeves and say "What do we need to do to meet each challenge that God sends our way?"

A "spark" I believe has come to our church family. We keep going in the direction we are, and God will bless this church family. We will always have challenges to meet...but with that spark we can meet those challenges.

Remember to talk to your best friend everyday...God.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

We are in the beginning stages of planning a "Memorial Garden" to be planted next spring at Fillmore. Ken Myers and Debbie Skellen will be working on the design. We thought it would be a great idea to plant the favorite flowers of those that have passed on. We will circulate a form over the next several weeks to find out whom you would like to memorialize and what their favorite flower was. By spring we will know what types of flowers we will need to purchase or grow from seed. One of the main focal points will be a butterfly bush and a small section of picket fence. We have been thinking of adding a birdbath and a birdhouse or two as well. It will be a beautiful addition to our church landscape!

ADULT GROUP

On the weekend of September 18th, the adult group spent the weekend at Herb & Pam's cottage in Bath, NY. It was a wonderful weekend full of food, fellowship, laughter and good times! We took a hike through the woods, walked through some cornfields, had a few bon fires and ate lots of delicious food!

UPCOMING EVENTS

RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE

: On Saturday, October 17th we will be having rummage sale from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. We will also be selling baked goods, hot dogs, chips and pop as well. Any donations of baked goods would be welcomed. Also check around the house, we all have items we can donate for the rummage sale. Stop by, you may find a treasure or two that you didn't know you needed!

CHOWDER SALE

On Saturday, November 7th Fillmore will be holding a chowder sale starting at noon. As you know, it goes quick, so make sure you get there early so you don't miss out!

YOUTH GROUP

CALLING ALL TEENS! Are you in the 6th grade and up? Starting this Monday night, October 5, 2009 in the Youth Room at Ransomville Church will be a meeting to see if there is any interest in starting a Youth Group for this coming year. The meeting will start at 6:30 PM. For more information call Hap at 791-3332.

The Gift of Friendship

FRIENDSHIP is a priceless gift
That cannot be bought or sold,
But its value is far greater
Than a mountain made of gold..
For gold is cold and lifeless,
It can neither see nor hear,
And in the time of trouble
It is powerless to cheer..
It has no ears to listen,
No heart to understand,
It cannot bring you comfort
Or reach out a helping hand..

So when you ask god for a gift, be thankful if he sends
Not diamonds, pearls or riches, but the love of real
true friends.

(Someone Cares the Collected poems of Helen Steiner Rice)



Birthdays

Fillmore Chapel

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 – Malcom Johannes | 14 – Matthew Koroschetz | 24 – Kaitlin Loroschetz |
| 3 – Patricia Susice | 15 – Bruce Schultz, Jr | .26 – Laurie Schultz |
| 5 – Theresa Wills | 19 – Herbert Lederhouse | 29 – Kailey Schultz |
| 5 – Amy Sulinski | 21 – Joseph Markelonis | 31 – Charles Stojak |
| 13 – Cheryl Andrasik | 22 – Mason Seger | |

Ransomville

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 2 – Roger Poette | 18 – Richard Wade, Sr. | 26 – Susan Truesdell |
| 3 – David Spring | 19 – Suzanne Cassick | 27 – Chris Burmaster |
| 3 – Patricia Poette | 20 – Austin Hauser | 30 – Earl C. Robins |
| 14 – Todd Hauser | 21 – Sharon York | 31 – Esther Hardison |
| 17 – Jeremy Diez | 24 – Joan Cramer | |

Anniversaries

Fillmore Chapel

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 – Ed & Jane Wendt | 14 – Jonathan & Shannon Stoelting | 21 – Fred & Hazel Lederhouse |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|

Ransomville

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 24 – Dan & Sue Harbison | 26 – Steven & Amy Olsen | 26 – William & Bernice McLaughlin |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|



Birthdays

Fillmore Chapel

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 – Russell Harris | 12 – Jacob Daniel Stoelting | 15 – Sherri Sulinski |
| 4 – Andrew Koroschetz | 14 – Cynthia McLaughlin | 20 – Shelly Wilkinson |
| 12 – Chris Sembert | | |

Ransomville

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 4 – Michelle Andalora | 8 – Grace Baker | 21 – Timothy Truesdell |
| 5 – Joanne Hopkins | 9 – Kelly Moje | 23 – Norma Brosnan |
| 6 – Jessie Michel | 13 – Tommie Jo Williams | 30 – Jessica Spring |
| 8 – Charles Michel | 16 – Darwin Cramer | 30 – Betty Daniels |



Anniversaries

Fillmore Chapel

16 – Tim & Sheri Senek

Ransomville

7 – Joel & Greta Spring

25 – Todd & Amy Hauser



December

Birthdays

Fillmore Chapel

1 – Shannon Stoelting
 2 – Harry Schlyer
 4 – Guy Perry
 8 – Jeffery Skellen

12 – Edmund Wendt
 13 – Barbara Perry
 14 – Mitchell Sembert
 17 – Allen M. Wills

21 – Terry Skellen
 24 – H. Bruce Lederhouse
 26 – Emma Mylchreest
 31 – Chester Sulinski

Ransomville

4 – Richard Wade, Jr.
 6 – Emma De Winter
 11 – Katie Moje
 14 – Bernice McLaughlin

15 – Reeve Gates, Jr.
 18 – Evann Ellen Hauser
 19 – Andrew Charles Jesson
 20 – Lou York

21 – Jonathan Roger Gamble
 21 – William Emerson
 21 – Suzannah Emerson
 26 – Pam Tweed

Anniversaries

Ransomville

13 – Emerson & Marian Frey

21 – Tim & Mary Truesdell

Please call the office with any additions or correction to the birthday & anniversary list.