

72nd STREET CHRISTIAN NEWS

No, don't groan, it's not another newsletter to read, making readers feel guilty if we just don't have the time. My favorite sources of news and commentary simply have TOO MUCH content, so I have to do the inevitable - delete, delete, delete - even though it pains me to pass it up.

"72nd Street Christian News" is the very first mailing of my dad's first writing after leaving churchianity behind. As you can see on the left, the date is October 27, 1964. At that time, my dad, Gommel, as we came to call him, had just recently graduated from Christian Theological Seminary.

While at seminary, he was assistant minister of Central Christian Church in downtown Indianapolis (2 years) and then became the senior minister at Broad Ripple (now Allisonville) Christian Church in suburban Indianapolis (3 years). He came to see that too many in the churches were simply playing church or occupying pews without living their commitment and obedience to God. As minister, he knew he must challenge people to follow God with abandon, seeking His will and trying to do it unconditionally. He also knew that many people didn't really want to hear that message, given with expectation of changed lives.

Instead of splitting the church he was leading and getting stuck with a building, he left. He packed up his family, found a suitable house, and he and others began to meet there. Then - well, he tells this best in "The 72nd Street Christian News", so please read the two short articles below, one by Gommel and the other by my mother, Barb Gommel.

In answer to two questions that may occur to you from reading the articles: what became the permanent name of the little paper? -- "The New Light". What name did the tiny church group take on? Church of Our Lord and Savior, which still meets together, but here in California. The New Light morphed into a website, which is kinda static but tells our individual stories.

Anyone with the courage to be unconventional is welcome to join us, either on Sunday morning at 8AM or Wednesday evening at 6PM. If you're interested, contact Bill or Jan or Linda at this store.

Linda Gommel



Bear Valley Mobile Health Center
Your Wellness on Wheels
BEAR VALLEY

will be here, on the Porches
Dec. 11 & 18 / 10am - 3pm

FREE FLU VACCINES
(while supplies last)

For more information
or to set up an
appointment, call
(909) 878-8246
Accepts IEHP


Lucerne Valley Residents:
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION
Sat. Dec. 20, 2025
9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Behind Lucerne Valley Fire Station
33269 Old Womans Spring Rd
(Enter through gate on Ladera Rd)

CAN ONLY TAKE:

- Antifreeze
- Batteries
- Fluorescents
- Medical Needles
- Latex and Oil based paint (max 15 gallons)
- All Electronic Wastes (E-Waste)
- Oil and Filters (max 15 gallons)

No Containers Larger than 5-gallons and No Business Waste Accepted.
NO TRASH - NOTHING ELSE



72ND STREET CHRISTIAN NEWS

1335 E. 72nd. Street
Tel. CL 3-2238

Tues., Oct. 27, 1964

Indianapolis, 46240
1964 No. 1

NEWS OF WHAT?

This is the first newsletter of a very small new group which is gathering to try to become an example of a living church. We believe that in the average, modern church, "being Christian" too often means simply being a member of a "good" organization strikingly similar to many fraternal groups. Too often "Christianity" is another activity in lives already overburdened with activities.

We believe that being a Christian means being born to new life. Being a Christian means taking on a wholly (holy) new way of life. In the old life one asks himself, "What do I want to do?", or at best "What do I believe is good to do?" In the new life, the Christian tries, to the best of his ability, to seek the will of the Lord, and do it, as best he can. This enters into every area of his life. His life and purpose is given to serving the Lord.

Being Christian means literally giving one's life to the Lord. We are to take seriously the Scriptures of which these are a few:

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man, if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? (Mt. 16:24-26)

No one can serve two masters; . . . You cannot serve God and mammon. (Mt. 6:24)

So therefore, whoever of you does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. (Lk. 14:33)

You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve. (Mt. 4:10b)

. . . you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart . . .

SERVICES BEGIN

this Sunday, Nov. 1, at the parsonage, 1335 E. 72nd. St. (1/2 block east of Westfield Road)

Sunday School 9:30
All ages
Morning Worship 11:00
All are welcome!

(cont.)

. . . soul . . . mind . . . strength. . . . You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these. (Lk. 12:30,31)

Of course, all of importance cannot be summed up in a few verses. And one thing that we want to avoid if at all possible is emphasis of a partial gospel. This is a pit into which many have fallen.

We believe that only when we repent and come to a right spirit in our hearts, loving our Lord, yearning to serve him, and in fact bearing fruits that befit repentance, will we enter into the joy of our Master.

We welcome all who would fellowship and worship with us -- those who have given their lives to Christ, and those who have not.

Trying to live in obedience to the Lord should prove to be an interesting -- yes, a life-saving, life-giving adventure!

Ernest Gommel, Minister

WELL? WE TRIED!

After all, it's a used mimeograph, new to me. I have only a 1935 model portable typewriter with no typing table, and I have no stencil tools. The fact that this little newspaper ever got out is a miracle. -Ed.-

THE NAME of this newsletter is temporary. The group (church) has no name yet. Any suggestions will be appreciated.

EWG

Dear Christian friends,

We seem to be more or less (depending on how well the water well works at the moment) established and moved into our parsonage-church headquarters. We are most grateful for the patience, strong arms and broad backs (and weak arms -Ed.) of the volunteer "brawn" who showed up to help us move.

Perhaps it was just as well they didn't know beforehand that they would have to lift the piano three feet high over the planter in the "old" parsonage while they guided it through a door, or coax the dryer and washer down rail-less stairs and around a hairpin turn into our new basement.

We've had a few "minor" difficulties in getting settled, such as no heat, an inoperable water heater, and, worst of all, little water! Well, we got most of these things fixed -- all except the well, and the kind landlady will have a new one drilled in about a week. Pretty soon we'll be able to take a bath! We can have some real clean fun then.

You know, we're just 1/2 block from the White River, and here it is dammed so that there is a lake about 1 1/2 miles long. We're going to have to get a boat from somebody and take a ride.

We really love this house. It has

such a warm atmosphere. It has a personality all its own. After three years we again have a fireplace. It's a good one, too.

We are a bit in awe, perhaps a little frightened as the reality of this step of faith dawns clearer upon us. We feel the need of all your prayers for the new work. Also, let us know of your needs for prayers.

We still are seeking a good name for our infant church. We are having a thrilling experience meeting together, seeking to define who we are, our purpose and mission, and our course for the future.

Barbara Gommel

Mirage: Where the little man who wasn't there keeps his automobile.

Moderate: A man who makes enemies left and right.

The priest was trying to comfort one of his parishioners. "Mr. Kelley," he said, "you shouldn't be bitter. You must be thankful." "Thankful!" exclaimed Kelley. "Just what have I to be thankful for? I can't even pay my bills." The priest thought for a bit, and then said brightly: "Why man alive, be thankful you aren't one of your creditors!"

1335 E. 72nd. Street
Indianapolis, Ind.
46240

THIRD CLASS

On The Lighter Side of Serious Stuff . . . from the Web

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

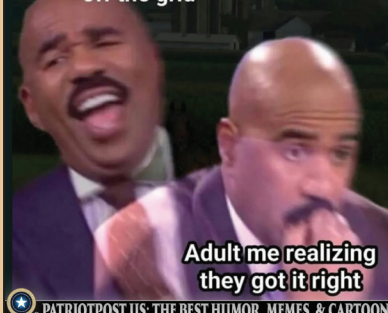
Isaiah 41:10

THE PATRIOT POST IS CLOSED ON SUNDAY

I'm at that age where my mind still thinks I'm 29, my humor suggests I'm 12, while my body mostly keeps asking if I'm sure I'm not dead yet.

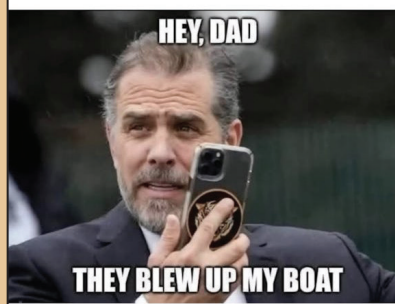


8 year old me laughing at the Amish for living off the grid



Adult me realizing they got it right

PATRIOTPOST.US: THE BEST HUMOR, MEMES, & CARTOONS



HEY, DAD

THEY BLEW UP MY BOAT

PATRIOTPOST.US: THE BEST HUMOR, MEMES, & CARTOONS

LVM Commentary - Dec. 11 - 17, 2025



Chicago Kicks Off Holiday Season By Unveiling Festive Red And Green Crime-Scene Tape

From The Babylon Bee



THIS IS WHAT THE FIRST MORTGAGE PAYMENT LOOKS LIKE



PATRIOTPOST.US: THE BEST HUMOR, MEMES, & CARTOONS

NO LVEDA MEETING FOR DECEMBER!

L.V. Roadrunners Present

Photos with Santa

at your Lucerne Valley Market & Hardware

Saturday, Dec. 13,
1 pm - 3 pm

Stop by and take a photo of your kid with Santa with your camera!



Get a treat afterward on the front porch from the LV Roadrunners.