

MEMORIES OF SPECIAL PEOPLE

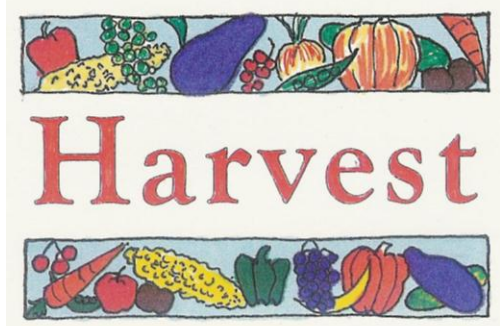
“Christian Encouragement”

Written by Pauline Medhurst

Most of the time we walk through our lives satisfying ourselves, thinking our thoughts, dreaming our dreams and trying to plan our future. We have little time to plan how we can encourage others or give hope to someone else. I’m sure that many people in our church have not realized how often their very greeting in the hallway was a great source of encouragement.

One of those people was Maxine Jones. It was always such a privilege to hear her say, “It’s so good to see you.” She brought sunlight to me and a spurt of strength. I enjoyed looking for her each Sunday for her spirit was infectious. When I realized she could hardly see, I realized how important it was that I took time to speak and share as much joy for living as I could.

One person whose courage and positive attitude always encouraged me was Ike Lash. First of all he gave credit where credit was due and you knew his statements were fair.



Ike always seemed to find the good in people and shared that in a very objective way; you could count on Ike's thoughts. He always made me laugh and feel so good when our conversation ended.

Two women whose quiet lives always had a sense of calm and yet acceptance for people were a blessing to me. Ann Lane was quiet and I sat near her for several weeks. Finally I decided to introduce myself. Ann smiled and spoke. The next time she spoke first and shared her thoughts. Her smile was a blessing and an encouragement.

I worked with Miriam Olson in the office from time to time. Her calm, steady mannerisms and her ability to find the good in life were such an encouragement to me.

As I think about these people and many others whose lives have influenced us all, I notice that the peace and quiet we offer is such a blessing to many. In our world it is hard to find the quiet, the encouragement, the gentleness which we all look for.

What a challenge to each of us as we try to share the calmness of Christian love to the world. I am thankful for the privilege to share with so many wonderful persons who give their lives to loving others.

