



It's A Wonderful Life!

Senior Adult Fellowship

February – March 2014

*In his heart a man plans his course,
but the Lord determines his steps.*

Proverbs 16:9

Everyone loves a good story, especially those with a happy ending. All of us can remember being read to as a child or reading to our own children and grandchildren. My daughter and I have both become engrossed in reading Louis L'Amour books, which are primarily books about the settling of the west. They have just enough adventure, romance and character development to be page turners and the "good guy" always gets the girl and justice prevails in the end. Just fun, clean reading with history thrown in. I have not read his whole collection but that is my goal.

Of course we know what the GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD is about. It is true, trustworthy and has a very happy ending for those of us who have accepted that Truth. Our lives tell a story also. Think back over your life and the story that is yours. Would you have written your story differently? If all of us are honest, there would be parts of our stories we would change if we could. Thank goodness it is God who is writing my story and not me. Yes, there are some things I would add and other things I would take out, humanly speaking, but if not for those hard, sometimes painful periods of my life, I would never have understood the faithfulness of God. In fact, why would I need Him at all if I could write my life story just as I pleased.

We have never been promised an easy life while we are here on earth. But what we have been promised to experience in heaven is something none of us would want to change. So when plans in this life go awry, either for us or for our loved ones, we need to keep our eyes on the One who is weaving our story together perfectly for His purpose. One day we will understand just why He has chosen to write it the way He has.

In His Love,
Carla Brown

Upcoming programs

FEBRUARY - When you put Richard Lockery, Mel Medaris and Carmen Wolf together you are bound to hear spectacular music. That is just what you will enjoy when you attend our meeting on **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13**. Since that is the day before Valentine's Day we are going to be enjoying some love songs along with some valentine treats prepared for us by Elizabeth Simonds. Mark your calendar for a fun day of music, fellowship and fun.

MARCH - Whenever you put Wilma Dietzen in front of a mike you know you are in for some laughs. We have persuaded Wilma to be our program this month and she has agreed to tell us stories about her dad, Sheriff Richey. Without question we will be hearing things we have never heard before. You do not want to miss this meeting. So mark **THURSDAY, MARCH 13**, on your calendar and join us for a time of laughter.

Pastor's Prayer Corner

Let's give praise to our great God for His faithfulness to His people. God the Father loves us. God the Son, gave His life for us. God the Holy Spirit convicts and converts us. What a wonderful God we worship and serve! There is no other God like our God. I thank God for His nearness to us during our private times of fellowship with Him, for the outpouring of His Spirit we experience as we worship together as the body of Christ, for the unity we have as we care for each other's needs, for God's patience with our nation even though we are wickedly pursuing false gods, for the growth of our church in new members, for the assimilation of new members into our church, for faithfully taking His saints home to heaven, for comforting the sick and suffering with His presence, for allowing us to lead unbelievers to Christ throughout our city, for the generosity of our members both financially and in gifts of time, for the diversity of our body and for the hope we have in Jesus' return to take us to heaven. In the matchless name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Tim Tinsley
Senior Pastor

Lunch with God ...

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with a bag of potato chips and a six-pack of root beer and started his journey.

When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old woman. She was sitting in the park, just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to her and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old lady looked hungry, so he offered her some chips. She gratefully accepted them and smiled at him.

Her smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered her a root beer. Again, she smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

As twilight approached, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave; but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old woman, and gave her a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God." But before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? She's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned to her home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace on her face and he asked, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?" She replied! "I ate potato chips in the park with God." However, before her son responded, she added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime! Embrace all equally!

Have lunch with God ... bring chips.

Birthdays ...

February

- 5 John Killeffer
- 9 Kathleen Craven
Richard Hempy
- 15 John Fowler
- 17 Ann Walldorf
Ann Williams
- 18 Marianne Thomas
- 21 Roberta Thomas
- 23 David Cooper
- 24 Billie Campbell
Dean Styers
- 26 Marilyn McBride
- 27 Ken Simonds

March

- 1 Dot Sertel
- 3 Jean Culpepper
- 4 Donna Durand
Margie Richards
- 8 Pete Austin III
Wayne Thomas
- 10 Cartter Frierson
- 16 Nancy Tatum
- 17 Ed Koehn
- 21 Charley Hicks
- 23 Janette Barnes
- 24 Monty Hicks
- 26 Faith Cochran
Deaderick Moon
- 27 Ben Jackson
- 29 Dorothy McDowell
- 30 Betty Smith
- 31 Betty Winston



Till they come home

We wish to remember our troops at home and abroad and the families who care for homes and children while they are away.

In Loving Memory ...

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of those who have passed away.

Rudy & Ann Walldorf, stepmother, Evelyn Tricia Elkins' father, Hiram Laws III
Bobbie Meadows, death of her brother
Velma Mason, husband, Ben
Herman Weaver, brother Glenn
Loren Hartley, stepmother, Margaret
Friends of Karen Tomshe
The family of Ardy Soules
Galyn Brown, niece of Velma Mason,
Virginia Turner, Charles & Helen Parry

Prayer & Praise ...



In our
thoughts
& prayers

Gerry Allen	Betty Ball
Lil Barnett	Charlotte Blocker
Sarah Camp	Kathleen Craven
Donna Durand	Ginny Flatt
Shirley Hardy	Sue Harrison
Gerry Klein	Norma Knier
Joe Lanham, Jr	Queenie McCallie
Doris Mantooth	Billye Ragsdale
Linda Richardson	Dot Sertel
Ken Simonds	Curtis Smith
Dot & Dean Styers	Nancy Tatum
Pat Thatcher	Cyndy Tinsley
Therese Van Wickler	Suzy Weaver
Martha Whaley	Mary Wright
Mary Alice & Ted Mills	
Joyce & Paul Ritch	
Helen Stapleton, Harriet Berman and Sarah Strain's sister	
Jackie Middleton, Gayle Sorensen's sister	

Take My Son

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art. When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son. About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands. He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly. He often talked about you, and your love for art." The young man held out this package. "I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this."

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture. "Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift." The father hung the portrait over his mantel. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected.

The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection. On the platform sat the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?" There was silence. Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, "We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one." But the auctioneer persisted. "Will somebody bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? \$100, \$200?" Another voice angrily, "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Goghs, the Rembrandts. Get on with the Real bids!" But still the auctioneer continued. "The son! The son! Who'll take the son?"

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the longtime gardener of the man and his son. "I'll give \$10 for the painting." Being a poor man, it was all he could afford. "We have \$10, who will bid \$20?" "Give it to him for \$10." "Let's see the masters." The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son. They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections. The auctioneer pounded the gavel. "Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!" A man sitting on the second row shouted, "Now let's get on with the collection!" The auctioneer laid down his gavel. "I'm sorry, the auction is over." "What about the paintings?" "I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings. The man who took the son gets everything!"

God gave His son over 2,000 years ago to die on the cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is: "The Son, the Son, who'll take the Son?" Because, you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything!

**FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON,
WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH, SHALL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE ... THAT'S LOVE!**

Recall Notice

The Maker of all human beings (GOD) is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to a serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart.

This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype unit's code named Adam and Eve, resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units.

This defect has been identified as "Subsequential Internal Non-morality," more commonly known as S.I.N., as it is primarily expressed.

Some of the symptoms include:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Loss of direction | 4. Lack of peace and joy | 7. Fearfulness |
| 2. Foul vocal emissions | 5. Selfish or violent behavior | 8. Idolatry |
| 3. Amnesia of origin | 6. Depression or confusion | 9. Rebellion |

The Manufacturer, who is neither liable nor at fault for this defect, is providing factory-authorized repair and service free of charge to correct this defect.

The Repair Technician, JESUS, has most generously offered to bear the entire burden of the staggering cost of these repairs. There is no additional fee required.

The number to call for repair in all areas is: P-R-A-Y-E-R.

Once connected, please upload your burden of SIN through the REPENTANCE procedure.

Next, download ATONEMENT from the Repair Technician, Jesus, into the heart component.

No matter how big or small the SIN defect is, Jesus will replace it with:

- | | | |
|----------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Love | 4. Patience | 7. Faithfulness |
| 2. Joy | 5. Kindness | 8. Gentleness |
| 3. Peace | 6. Goodness | 9. Self control |

Please see the operating manual, the B.I.B.L.E. (BEST Instructions Before Leaving Earth) for further details on the use of these fixes.

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without correction voids any manufacturer warranties, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list, and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded. For free emergency service, call on Jesus.

DANGER: The human being units not responding to this recall action will have to be scrapped in the furnace. The SIN defect will not be permitted to enter Heaven so as to prevent contamination of that facility.

Thank you for your attention!

GOD

Welcome New Members

Mike Doubleday
4228 Obar Drive
Chattanooga, TN 37419
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Chattanooga, TN 37405-3120
423- 265-2737

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423-886-2090

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This newsletter is prayerfully prepared for:

Lesson to learn about anger ...

Lesson to learn about anger ~ There was a little boy with a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, to hammer a nail in the back fence.

The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Then it gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence. Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all.

He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper. The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone.

The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well but see the holes in the fence? It will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like these. It won't matter how many times you say 'I'm sorry', the injury is still there. A verbal wound is worse than a physical one because it damages the thinking of the brain."

"People and friends are the very jewels of life. Guard and care for them. God will not care much about what you have done to improve yourself or your lot in life, only for what you have done for others."

Anger is a feeling, Forgiveness is a decision, Gratitude is the tool with which to master both.