



It's A Wonderful Life!

Senior Adult Fellowship

April – May 2014

“With mirth and laughter let old wrinkles come.”

William Shakespeare

As we all know, when you drive a new car off the lot it begins to age and is considered “used.” The same is true when we are born. We immediately begin to age. As children we cannot wait until our next birthday. When we are in our twenties we think we are invincible and old age will never happen to us. By the time we reach middle age we are beginning to realize that old age might actually happen to us and more quickly than we want it to. All those jokes about aging are not quite so funny now. Speaking of humorous, Jerri Gibson gave me an article recently that was a letter written by a lady to Ann Landers. This is what it said:

“A very weird thing has happened. A strange old lady has moved into my house. I have no idea who she is or where she came from, or how she got in. All I know is that one day she wasn't there and the next day, she was.

“She is a clever old lady, and manages to keep out of sight for the most part, but whenever I pass a mirror, I catch a glimpse of her. And whenever I look in the mirror to check my appearance, there she is, hogging the whole thing, completely obliterating my gorgeous face and body. This is very rude. I have tried screaming at her, but she just screams back.

“I don't want to jump to conclusions, but I think she is stealing money from me. I go to the ATM and withdraw \$100, and in a few days it is all gone. I certainly don't spend money that fast, so I can only conclude that old lady is pilfering from me. You would think she would spend some of that money to buy wrinkle cream. She certainly needs it. And the money isn't the only things I think she is stealing. Food seems to disappear at an alarming rate ... especially the good stuff like ice cream, cookies and candy. I can't seem to keep that stuff in the house anymore. She must have a real sweet tooth, but she'd better watch out because she is really packing on the pounds.

“For an old lady she is quite childish. She likes to play games, like going into my closet when I am not home and altering my clothes so that they no longer fit. She has found other imaginative ways to annoy me. She gets into my mail, newspapers and magazines before I do and blurs the print so I can't read it. And she has done something really sinister to the volume controls on my TV, radio and telephone. Now, all I hear are mumble and whispers.

“She had done other things – like make my stairs steeper, my vacuum cleaner heavier and all my knobs and faucets harder to turn. Just when I thought she could not get any meaner, she proved me wrong. She came along when I went to get my picture taken for my driver's license, and just as the camera shutter clicked, she jumped in front of me. No one is going to believe that the picture of that old lady is ME!”

I am sure you found yourself laughing as you read this. I certainly did. But how do you really view aging? Do you pretend it is not happening to you as this woman in a feigned way did in her letter? Or do you look at this time in life like Billy Graham, who is quoted as saying, “I may not be able to do everything I once did (nor does God expect me to), but I am called to be faithful to what I can do.” And like the apostle Paul who was writing about how to live to the end of our lives in 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18, He urges us to “Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in ALL circumstances for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”

God can and wants to use us no matter where we are in life. We just need to be faithful to His leading. But since He gave us laughter, I think it is also fine to laugh at the funny things in life, like aging jokes.

May all our wrinkles be laugh lines!

Carla Brown

Musical Potpourri ~ April 10

We are excited to have Jay Craven, Virginia Marion and special guest singer and guitarist Jim Palmour to perform for our April IAWL gathering. Their program, "A Musical Potpourri," will cover many genres of music. Come join us for this special event. It promises to be a delight!

Our day begins with fellowship at 10:30 AM followed by the program at 11:00 AM and a delicious lunch at a cost of \$6. Please contact Janette Barnes (706-820-9029) or Rosa Wrenn (423-886-6349) for reservations.

The Great Locomotive Chase ~ Ringgold Depot ~ May 8

It's off to the Ringgold Depot for our May program. Joseph Brellinthin, Director of Downtown Development for the City of Ringgold, will be our special guest. We'll watch a 20-minute movie about the Great Locomotive Chase of the Civil War followed by a question and answer period. The IAWL year will end with a delicious picnic lunch.

Our day begins with fellowship at 10:30 AM followed by the program at 11:00 AM and a delicious lunch at a cost to be determined. Please contact Janette Barnes (706-820-9029) or Rosa Wrenn (423-886-6349) for reservations.

We'll carpool from the Douglas Street parking lot at 10:00 AM. Please let Janette or Rosa know if you'll be needing a ride.

On the Road Again ~ May 15



"The Nashville You Do Not Know"

Buddy Caldwell of our congregation, who formerly operated motor coach and tour services in Nashville, is going to introduce It's A Wonderful Life! travelers to many of the stories, sights, sounds and smells of Tennessee's capital.

While touring Music City, you'll feel like you traveled to Greece, Italy,

Egypt and old Detroit ... plus, homes, neighborhoods and Titan Stadium. Clear your calendar for Thursday, May 15, 2014. We expect to leave the Douglas Street lot at 7:45 a.m. and return at 6:30 p.m. The price is \$50. You may sign up at the IAWL meeting April 10 or call David Cooper at 892-5550. The bus is already half full.



Birthdays ...

April

- 2 Annette Craig
- 4 Gay Tucker
- 6 Sue Harrison
- 8 Lillian Barnett
Ron Kohlin
- 11 Barry Heywood
- 12 Mary Clark
- 13 Al Lutz
- 16 Rosemary Robertson
- 17 Doug Dennett
- 20 Freda Bell
Tom Hays
Queenie McCallie
- 22 Marge Franklin
- 26 Connie Crawford

May

- 4 Dot Styers
- 6 Gil Knier
- 7 Pat Thatcher
Jean Hawkins
- 9 Suzy Weaver
- 10 Carolyn Morrow
- 11 George Glass
- 15 Evelyn Bannister
- 16 Doug Powell
- 18 Kitty Stone
- 19 Paul Ritch
- 20 Fred Seepe
Carolyn Thatcher
- 21 Michael Myers
- 24 Bettye Seepe
- 25 John Barnes
Elizabeth Simonds
- 28 Anne Allen
Lamar Fossett
Joan Heywood
- 31 Betty Sue Watson



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

Lillian Steele, Annette Craig's mom

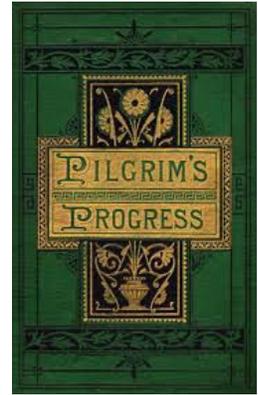


God 
Answers
Prayers

Lee Anderson
Jo Bacon
Carla Brown
Donna Durand
Wilma Fowler
Shirley Hardy
Gerry Klein
Sally Koehn
Doris Mantooth
Ted & Mary Alice Mills
Maxine Sharrock
Ken Simonds
Dean & Dot Styers
Therese Van Wickler
Suzy Weaver
Carmen Wolf
Paul & Joyce Ritch & their family
Aileen Davis, Mary Ellen Locklear's mom
Nancy Jones, daughter of Larry & Betty
Edwina Varnell, sister of Betty Jones
Curtis Smith, son of Judy Smith
Caregivers who lovingly care for loved ones
Our military and their families

Pastor's Prayer Corner

One of my favorite books is John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" Even though it was written in the 1600s, it still speaks to the heart. He writes the book as an allegory. Bunyan portrays his various characters according to their traits. For example, he calls a man who only talks about spiritual things, but never actually does anything, "Talkative." He calls a man who is a trustworthy companion "Faithful." If your best friends could describe you in a single word, how would they describe you? How would you describe yourself? If you could possess any character trait you desired, which would you desire the most? Take time to pray to God, thanking Him for making you the person that you are. Trust that God has especially designed you to be who He wants you to be. Also pray to God and ask Him to help you become the person you want to be.



Reflect on Psalm 139:13-16 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

In His grip, Pastor Tim
Tim Tinsley
Senior Pastor

Ten Commandments – Texas Style

People in Texas have trouble with all those shalls and shall nots in the 10 Commandments. Folks there just aren't used to talking in those terms. So, some folks out in west Texas got together and translated the "King James" into "King Ranch" language: Ten Commandments, cowboy style.

Cowboy's Ten Commandments posted on the wall at Cross Trails Church in Fairlie, Texas:

- (1) Just one God.
- (2) Honor yer Ma & Pa.

- (3) No telling tales or gossipin'.
- (4) Git yourself to Sunday meeting.
- (5) Put nothin' before God.
- (6) No foolin' around with another fellow's gal.
- (7) No killin'.
- (8) Watch yer mouth.
- (9) Don't take what ain't yers.
- (10) Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff.

Now that's kinda plain an' simple don't ya think?

If you would like CDs or DVDs of any program from our IAWL meetings, please contact Seth Pangle at 648-7934 or e-mail seth@1stpresbyterian.com



The Lord's Baseball Game

Freddy and the Lord stood by to observe a baseball game. The Lord's team was playing Satan's team.

The Lord's team was at bat, the score was tied zero to zero, and it was the bottom of the 9th inning with two outs. They continued to watch as a batter stepped up to the plate named 'Love.'

Love swung at the first pitch and hit a single, because 'Love never fails.'

The next batter was named Faith, who also got a single because Faith works with Love.

The next batter up was named Godly Wisdom. Satan wound up and threw the first pitch.

Godly Wisdom looked it over and let it pass: Ball one. Three more pitches and Godly Wisdom walked because he never swings at what Satan throws.

The bases were now loaded. The Lord then turned to Freddy and told him He was now going to bring in His star player. Up to the plate stepped Grace. Freddy said, 'He sure doesn't look like much!'

Satan's whole team relaxed when they saw Grace.

Thinking he had won the game, Satan wound up and fired his first pitch. To the shock of everyone, Grace hit the ball harder than anyone had ever seen! But Satan was not worried; his center fielder let very few get by.

He went up for the ball, but it went right through his glove, hit him on the head and sent him crashing to the ground;

the roaring crowds went wild as the ball continued over the fence for a home run!

The Lord's team won!

The Lord then asked Freddy if he knew why Love, Faith and Godly Wisdom could get on base but couldn't win the game. Freddy answered that he didn't know why.

The Lord explained, 'If your love, faith and wisdom had won the game, you would think you had done it by yourself. Love, Faith and Wisdom will get you on base but only Grace can get you Home:

**It's A Wonderful Life!
Senior Adult Fellowship
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This newsletter is prayerfully prepared for:

