



First Reformed Church **News & Views**



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One thing I never have to worry about when we go on the mission trip down to Texas is the food. I am more physically active for the week; thus I also eat a lot more food than I usually do. Because we have gone to the same area and partnered with the same church for several years, we have built relationships with a local pastor and his congregation. Food always connects people.

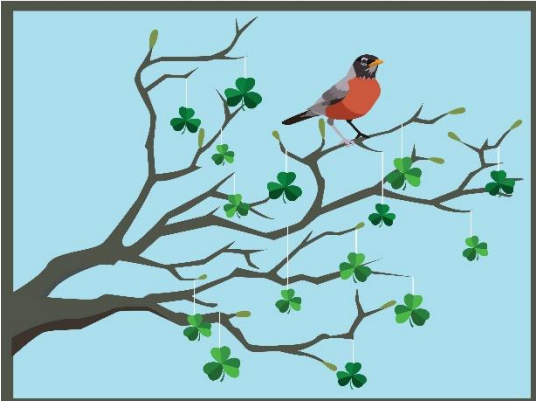
We were able to do a free hotdog/chips/soda supper and food bag giveaway in a local park. The neighborhood got to hear and see the Gospel as Pastor Omar preached and the young people of the church dressed up and acted out of the Bible story. We had 43 individuals/families who are not associated with the church hear the Good News, eat supper and take home a food bag and a Bible. We probably would have had double the crowd if we weren't hosting this the same time as the Superbowl—but that's how the schedule worked out for us and the church.

Several of our meals for our mission team were supplied by the church members...a couple lunches...a couple dinners of homemade food that were all outstanding. It's their tangible way to share their gratitude with us. The food is so good I usually can't go to any Mexican food restaurants up north for a couple months because it just doesn't compare to the authentic plates that were gifted to us in Texas.

Another highlight of the week is the morning and evening devotions we do with our mission team. Each person's personalities shone through their planned Bible readings and comments. God knit the themes all together in a special way to make the week one where we were all fed spiritual gourmet meals for our hearts, minds and souls. These special times helped us get through the long days of doing work none of us engage in every day. We pray throughout the whole day. We pray at meals. We pray with devotions. We pray before we take off of the worksite. We pray at the worksite with the family receiving the house. Prayer keeps us focused on why we are in Texas and whose name we are representing. There may have been only 12 of us working on the projects; but there are hundreds of people supporting through prayer, finances and other donations. It's all about representing the name of Jesus well. It's not about us, our talents or resources or time.

For me it's almost easier to pray and share spiritual things on short trips because there is a focused goal to achieve and then we go home. I pray I may have that kind of urgency grow in my heart about the everyday ministry of our church. We aren't building a physical house where we can see all the results. We are part of building a spiritual house that is only seen fully by God. Let's keep working for Him! Pastor Rob

MARCH



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Yvonne Korthuis
- 6 Elaine Gehrt
- 12 Eva Damhof
- 12 Ethan Riemersma
- 13 Gabe Bobzien
- 14 Orlyn Thorsrud
- 16 Kellin Bobzien
- 16 Dennis Bredeson
- 17 Mel Brouwer
- 17 Ivan Underland
- 18 Paul Damhof
- 25 Kent Underland
- 26 Ashley DeFlorin
- March
- 21 Randy & Marlys Dannen

Women's Circles



Mary Circle:
No March meeting

Deborah Circle:
No March meeting

Rebekah Circle:
Tuesday, March 14th @ 2:00 pm

Naomi Circle:
Thursday, March 9th @ 6:30 pm

P.U.S.H.

PRAY UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS

Many of us have heard the first part of what's called "The Serenity Prayer," attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. But we would do well to learn the rest of it as well:

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that You will make all things right if I surrender to Your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen."



In Scripture, this number often indicates a time of trial or testing, or simply marks significance. It rained 40 days and nights during the Flood. Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus fasted for 40 days and was with the disciples for 40 days between his resurrection and ascension. The Christian church has long observed 40 days of Lent (not counting Sundays).

FAITH &

Bible Verses about Spending Money

FINANCIALS

1 Timothy 6:10 ESV / For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Hebrews 13:5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Proverbs 13:22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous.

Deuteronomy 8:18 You shall remember the Lord our God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Proverbs 13:11 Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

Luke 12:15 And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

1 Timothy 6:17 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

Proverbs 3:9 Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;

Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Matthew 6:19-21 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.

Proverbs 3:9-10 Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

Malachi 3:10 Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

Proverbs 28:20 A faithful man will abound with blessings, but whoever hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 28:22 A stingy man hastens after wealth and does not know that poverty will come upon him.

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Proverbs 19:17 Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.



Posted on 01 Feb in Heart Work by scott turansky

Every parent has an action point. An action point is the point when you stop talking and start acting or the point when children know you mean business. How do they know? You give them cues, and your children know what those cues are. If you repeat the same request

over and over again, how does your child know when you really mean it?

Think back on your own childhood. How did you know when your dad or mom meant business? Maybe they used your middle name or started moving toward the kitchen where that special utensil was kept. They might have gotten out of the chair or started moving toward you or given you that look. The point is, you knew.

ACTION POINTS DIFFER AMONG ADULTS

Dads have a different action point than moms. The teacher at school and the babysitter each have an action point and the way children respond is often determined by the cues those leaders give to kids.

Unfortunately, many parents use anger as the cue that tells their children it's time to get moving. Although it may work in the short run, the harshness has negative side effects. An important skill in parenting is to communicate your action point without anger, since anger with kids may seem justified but is rarely wise.

You might be saying, "But my kids won't obey unless I get angry." And you're probably right, but only because you've taught your children to wait until you're angry before they have to respond. Your cue is anger and your kids know it. If you find that you're relying on anger to motivate your children, then it's time to make a change. What signals do you want to use to indicate that it's time to clean up, or it's time to go?

You might say, "Karyn, please turn off the TV now." The child's name and the word "now" can become the cues that the next thing you do is follow through and take action. Or you might preface what you're going to say with the words, "Karyn, this is an instruction. Look at my eyes."

EXPLAIN THE CHANGE YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE

When you're ready to make the change, talk with your children. Explain that you have been unwise in teaching them to wait until you get angry before they start obeying. From now on you are going to tell them once, then comes your action. If your child doesn't respond to the new cues then move right to a Break or a consequence.

Be careful of multiple warnings or counting to three as these tactics can weaken the instruction process. One warning may be helpful to make sure the child has understood the instruction but then the next step should be to follow through. If you tighten your action point you'll get angry less often and your children will respond more quickly.

Many parents are afraid of becoming a sergeant, ordering their children around and expecting instant obedience, and though it is important to balance firmness with relationship, they become so relational that their instructions sound more like

suggestions, ideas, or opinions. Or, they believe they have to talk their child into wanting to obey.

Many children in those homes, then, can't seem to follow even the simplest instructions without a dialogue. If this pattern continues then these children tend to make poor employees, develop selfish attitudes about following someone else's leadership, and have a difficult time in relationships because they haven't learned how to sacrifice their own agenda for others.

SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO STOP THE DIALOGUE

Explaining reasons behind instructions can be valuable at times, but even as adults, sometimes we must obey first and then understand later. God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son without full understanding and then considered it faith when he obeyed. (Genesis 22:1-2)

Peter didn't know why he was to go to Cornelius' house but went anyway only to discover that God wanted to bring salvation to the Gentiles. (Acts 10) Philip was asked to leave a revival in Samaria and go out into the wilderness, not knowing why, but when he got there he led an Ethiopian man to Christ. (Acts 8:26-40)

TARGETING MORNING TIMES TO PRACTICE

A common problem parents experience is keeping kids moving in the morning. One mom recounted her new morning plan that she shared with her kids. "I've been doing a lot of yelling and nagging in the morning and I don't want to do that anymore. So here's the plan. We're going to have checkpoints each morning. At 7:15 am you need to be down for breakfast, all dressed with shoes on, and your bed made. By 7:50 am you need to have completed your chores and have combed your hair. Those are the checkpoints.

"I'm doing this to help you manage yourselves each morning. You're old enough to do that instead of relying on me to keep you going. You'll feel better about the morning and this plan will reduce the tension we usually experience.

"To help you be motivated to meet these checkpoints, I want you to know that if you miss one checkpoint in a morning you'll have to go to bed a half hour earlier that evening, since you must need more sleep in order to get up and get yourself ready."

They ended the meeting positively as the children felt in control and eager to manage themselves the next morning. Mom's plan took some extra effort and work to enforce and keep on track but in the end the morning routines went more smoothly. Her children were successful at getting ready and Mom didn't have to nag or be harsh.

Mom replaced yelling and nagging with firmness. The checkpoints helped define her action point and the children understood the new guidelines.

GETTING THE BIGGER PICTURE

Responding more quickly to parents has spiritual ramifications as well. It's always best to respond to the whispers of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. But when we don't listen, God may have to use other ways to get our attention. There's no better time than now for children to learn this valuable lesson about life.

FAITH|WORKS SUMMARY

Read more on the back page about how we all are **"Giving Kid's Hope in Haiti"**. We are very excited about building for sustainable growth at the Cassange location!

- **Projects** - Ground breaking occurred for the high school and the new lab is under construction...
- **People** - Pam's impactful experience with Nurse Marise in Haiti...
- **Journey** - Missoule Bresil's journey as a senior in high school...

ARTICLES CONTINUED ON BACK...

A FEW WORDS FROM PETE...

It's that time of year where many prepare for taxes. With that in mind, we wanted to highlight some benefits from setting up a profile on our site:

- You can select your giving line items and download them for your records.
- You can review your giving record at any time
- More money go to kids in Haiti by reducing administrative costs
- You can give electronically on our automated site or continue to send a check to our new address

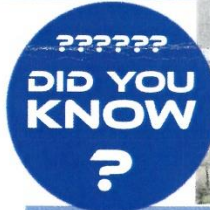
Please consider contacting us to set up a profile.

If you don't have a profile setup, allow time for our staff to manually create the year-end statement if requested.

Editor's note: Pastor Jean Roody (see Cassange Corner) is another amazing story of God's love and grace. He was without hope or a home as a child. Pastor Bazile took him in and ensured he got the education we provide, spiritual direction and love. Today he is the first to break out in song during our Director meetings. He has a wonderful family serving God with everything they have.

Pete, CEO/President

Pastor Jean
Roody &
family



In Haiti...

- In their lifetime, many Haitians will only travel 3-5 miles from where they are born.
- An average 25 year old Haitian has had less than 5 years of education.

CASSANGE CORNER



Hello I am pastor Jean Roody. I grew up in the home of Pastor Bazile. Now I am married to Darline and have 3 sons (Rood-Darvens, Roobens, Darbensley).

Today I am the principal of Fauche school and pastor of the E4 mission church.

I greet each person from Haiti. Thank you for helping many children get a good education.

I love a Song (#5), which says: "those who put in Jesus a trust that is immeasurable". People that trust Jesus are assured in everything they do, God will always be with them. 1 Samuel 2:8. There are people who had no hope, who gave up, discouraged and humiliated. God took these people, He used them, He removed them from the miserable state they were in, He gave them a great position in society. He raised their heads, changed their lives, and showed the glory of His Name through their lives. In this sense, the God we serve is a true God, He knows how to take people from low to high, I count on Him, everyone must count on Him, see how He knows how to act.

Jean Roody - God Bless You

FAITH|WORKS

Exciting updates on what is happening in Haiti - Continued from the front...

Projects



Our new medical lab is in progress! This will give the clinic rapid test results, without significant delays.



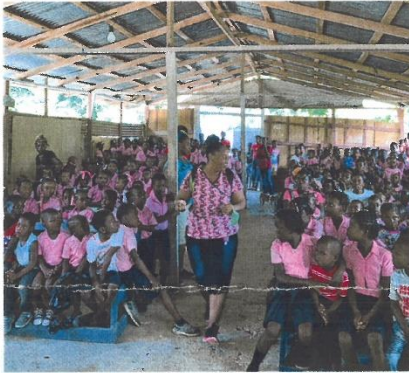
Our new high school construction is underway! We will have greater capacity and plenty of room for expansion as well.



Pikliz & Prayer

Pray for the family of one of our schoolteachers who recently passed away. He is survived by his wife and three children.

People



I am a nurse and have a lasting impression of Nurse Marise at a Fauche school assembly.

She demonstrated the proper techniques of hand washing. It was delightful to watch the children having such a wonderful time!

There was so much laughing and fun learning a crucial lesson! Even the basic elements of hygiene are so important with Cholera outbreaks and other health issues.

At that assembly, I appreciated Nurse Marise's skill as an educator and her desire to help the entire community.

What a gift she is to the children and families of students!

- Pam



Equip
Educate
Empower
Effectively

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Journey



For the next 5 months we will follow the journey of one of our students, Missoule Bresil.

"Good day to all the staff of Mission E4. My name is Missoule Bresil. I am in Filo (13th grade). I am very happy because I have the possibility to speak a little with you about my family today.

I was born in the village of Les Palmes on June 10, 2002. I lived with my father, my mother, 6 brothers, and 3 sisters. When I was 8 years old, my mother died while giving birth. Because we didn't have enough means, my father decided to take me and 2 of my sisters to an orphanage. After that, I went to live with a lady and her children, who became like a second family for me. She died 2 years ago, but I am still living with the family in Leogane."

Editor Note: Missoule has a typical story of a hard childhood. She gains hope from education and a school/church family. She has friends that can support and share dreams. She sees examples of others that have options and even work with Mission E4.

Second Sunday in Lent, March 5, 2023

Scripture Reading: Psalm 121

Sloth is the failure to do what needs to be done when it needs to be done — like the kamikaze pilot who flew seventeen missions. —John Ortberg

There's a word for laying around all day, doing nothing. It's a fine old theological term, one that's numbered among the Seven Deadly Sins. The word is "sloth."

Kathleen Norris is a Presbyterian elder who has written extensively about her spiritual journey. After considerable literary success, something happened to Kathleen's spiritual life. Her husband got cancer and needed constant care. Her aging father needed more help and support than her aging mother could give him. So, Kathleen moved back to her native Honolulu, and cared for her husband and father. Here's what she wrote about the experience:

"I felt dead inside. I dreaded waking in the morning, and sometimes went straight from bed to the couch, where I would watch television or do crossword puzzles until it became absolutely necessary to rouse myself to action. ... I was a far weaker soul than I cared to admit, a person pathetically subject to the sin of sloth. We often think of sloth as a harmless form of physical laziness, and joke about how long it's been since we vacuumed the carpet. But sloth is much more than laziness. It is an inability to concentrate on serious matters, and profound weariness of soul."

Kathleen learned it was all about her inability to focus. She felt pulled in so many different directions: so many chores to do, so many people who needed her help. She slipped into a kind of passivity, able to do only the bare minimum of what needed to be done.

Distractions can be more of a problem than many people realize. Think of the classic image of a lion tamer at the circus. If you picture a lion tamer, what sort of equipment does he or she have? A whip, surely. Maybe a pistol, to make a loud noise and frighten the beast. But there's one other item of equipment you always see in a lion tamer's hand: *a chair*.

Now, why do you suppose that would be? The whip and the gun make sense, but why a chair?

The reason is that the four legs of the chair interfere with the lion's visual perception. Wave a chair in front of a lion's face, and the lion's brain tries to focus on all four legs at once. This overloads the neural circuits. A kind of paralysis overwhelms the animal. The king of beasts becomes passive, weak, disabled — all because its attention is fragmented.

So, too, with us. When distracted by the cares and anxieties of life, we lose our ability to *press forward to what lies ahead*. Instead, we sit back on our haunches, or flop on our sides, doing nothing. That's sloth. And perhaps, during Lent, it is something we might consider.

—Carl Wilton, adapted from HomileticsOnline.com. Used by permission.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to regain focus and keep my eyes on what has foremost importance. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Leviticus 20-23

Monday: Leviticus 24-27

Tuesday: Mark 1-3

Wednesday: Mark 4-6

Thursday: Mark 7-10

Friday: Mark 11-13

Saturday: Psalms 25-28



March 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

PROBLEMS AT THE ZOO!

A rookie zookeeper one day is preparing to place new signs on all the animal exhibits, but he trips over something and spills all the letters on the ground. Now he has to unscramble the letters so that he correctly identifies the animals in the zoo. Can you help him?

NLOI _____

RAFEGIF _____

RLUTTE _____

GPEUNINS _____

KAESNS _____

LAORP ERAB _____

LOW _____

CURPOENIP _____

EHCTEHA _____

HISF _____

GREIT _____

BIGBON _____

KOMEYN _____

RREENID _____

RABE _____

BZREA _____

EESTPNALH _____

KSSRAH _____

PDALOR _____

SINCTSE _____

RROTPA _____

GORSF _____

LKAAO _____

LMAEC _____

SOLUTION: Left column — lion, turtle, snakes, owl, cheetah, tiger, monkey, bear, elephants, leopard, parrot, koala; Right column — giraffe, penguins, polar bear, porcupine, fish, gibbon, reindeer, zebra, sharks, insects, frogs, camel.

Third Sunday in Lent, March 12, 2023

Scripture Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

Any fool can criticize, condemn, and complain, and most do. —Dale Carnegie

The last verse of today's reading says, "They tempted the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'" "They" refers to the Israelites, and "tempted" means "tested," "irritated" or "annoyed" — the way children might push a parent to his or her limit.

This sentence made me think about the complainers of the world. And then I realized that since about 2019, social media has given a name to those complainers who are obnoxious, feel entitled and try to use their position and privilege to get their own way. These people are called "Karens" by internet hounds, and videos abound of these complainers trying to throw their weight around.

Complaining, negative people are not fun to be around, are they? God certainly was not happy with the constant carping of the Hebrews after they left Egypt, a land where they had been slaves for more than 400 years. You'd think they would be happy to be free in the desert, rather than slaves in the city; that "a crust eaten in peace is better than a banquet partaken in anxiety." Instead, they started to complain to Moses and Aaron, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt!" (16:3). The most damning complaint was their doubt that the Lord was even with them!

This is a common complaint and one that is easy to make when we take our eyes away from the Lord and look instead at all the difficulties that lie around us.

When we doubt God's presence, it is not long before we begin to criticize our human friends and leaders, just as the Hebrews ganged up on Moses.

Let's be grateful instead of grumbling. Let's remember the advice of Corrie ten Boom, who survived the Nazis during World War 2:

*We mutter, we sputter; we fume and we spurt,
We mumble and grumble; our feelings get hurt.
We can't understand things — our vision gets dim,
When all that we need is a moment with Him.*

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to remember that you are always with me. Amen.



Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Mark 14-16
- Monday:** Numbers 1-3
- Tuesday:** Numbers 4-6
- Wednesday:** Numbers 7-10
- Thursday:** Numbers 11-14
- Friday:** Numbers 15-17
- Saturday:** Psalms 29-30

FORTY Days OF LENT

WORD SEARCH

Find the words below that are all associated with the Lenten journey toward the cross.

- | | | | | | |
|---------|-------------|------------|---------|--------|--------|
| crown | donkey | hosanna | penance | Pilate | sins |
| colt | crucifixion | forsaken | kiss | prayer | suffer |
| confess | death | Gethsemane | lots | repent | thorns |
| cross | denial | Golgotha | palms | silver | vigil |

E	N	A	M	E	S	H	T	E	G	R	L	W	Y
C	L	E	U	X	B	M	T	H	B	U	C	W	B
N	R	I	K	Y	P	A	T	E	T	I	Y	X	Y
A	V	J	G	A	L	B	R	E	Y	A	R	P	B
N	G	N	L	I	S	N	L	A	I	N	E	D	X
E	W	M	P	R	V	R	D	H	B	N	R	D	F
P	S	O	G	O	L	G	O	T	H	A	B	S	C
D	L	N	R	O	C	O	N	F	E	S	S	I	K
O	T	H	T	C	P	E	K	W	U	O	U	N	D
M	N	S	H	N	P	W	E	D	R	H	F	S	K
U	N	F	O	E	T	K	Y	C	S	G	F	O	E
H	E	C	R	E	V	L	I	S	W	Q	E	C	M
H	V	H	N	C	X	S	O	C	C	J	R	L	O
F	Q	E	S	U	D	S	H	C	A	A	Y	M	C
C	R	U	C	I	F	I	X	I	O	N	S	R	V

Word Picture

What expression comes to
mind when you
study this drawing?
Write your answer below.



Word Picture: Jack in the box.

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 19, 2023

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Learn to be quiet enough to hear the genuine within yourself so that you can hear it in others. —Marian Wright Edelman

Appearances can be deceiving. This is an old, familiar adage and no doubt we agree with it. It's another way of saying that all that glitters is not gold. Can you think of some examples that bear witness to this truth? After all, as someone has said, the world appears flat, the sun appears to orbit, matter appears solid and time appears to move forward.

Think of a house you once considered buying. It had a beautiful lawn with sculpted bushes, and tailored walkways. Its gables and the porch were inviting, and it looked like your dream home. But, you couldn't see what was below the floorboards and in the wiring, could you? You didn't see the termites, water damage and dry rot until the house inspection warned you of these flaws.

In the art world, dealers are always alert for forgeries, and yet too often, even experts are fooled. Sometimes it is hard to spot a fake.

Even the last judge of Israel, Samuel, was fooled by outward appearances. When he was looking for a leader, he thought he'd found one among the sons of Jesse. But he was fooled. It was not the strongest or wisest that God wanted, but the weakest and the most foolish; not the man but the boy, the one writing poetry and playing a lyre. "But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart'" (1 Samuel 16:7).

What does the Lord see when he looks into your heart? Does he see anger, bitterness and jealousy? Or does he see love, joy, gentleness, meekness and self-control?

Today, let's try to be real. If there is love in your heart, let your hands and face show it. If there is joy inside, let it bubble to the surface. If there is sadness and grief, let others see it so they might offer comfort. If there is integrity inside, let your honesty be seen in all your dealings with others.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Lord Jesus, may I be real and authentic today, so that what others see on the outside is a true representation of the real me, or, actually, the real You! Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Numbers 18-20
- Monday:** Numbers 21-24
- Tuesday:** Numbers 25-27
- Wednesday:** Numbers 28-30
- Thursday:** Numbers 31-33
- Friday:** Numbers 34-36
- Saturday:** Psalms 31-32

VERSE TO REMEMBER

*Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.*

—Psalm 32:1

First Puzzle

P		N		O
---	--	---	--	---

	C		A	
--	---	--	---	--

C		A		P
---	--	---	--	---

	T		L	
--	---	--	---	--

Second Puzzle

R		A		M
---	--	---	--	---

	O		S	
--	---	--	---	--

R		N		E
---	--	---	--	---

	A		O	
--	---	--	---	--

DOUBLE FUN!

Each puzzle to the left consists of four 5-letter words that use 10 different letters exactly two times apiece. Thus, there are already two A's in the first puzzle and two R's in the second. Therefore, you cannot use another A or R in the respective puzzles. Think of other words with N, L or T in the first puzzle, for example.

NINE LETTER FUN!

Place the letters of the 9-letter words to the right on the dashes, one letter per dash to spell a 7-letter word, a 5-letter word, and a 3-letter word. Each letter of the 9 letter word can only be used once.

RIDERSHIP

___ E ___ V ___ S ___

___ K ___ E ___

___ O ___

SIDETRACK

___ A ___ M ___ R ___

___ A ___ N ___

___ A ___

SCRAMBLED

___ U ___ T ___ R ___

___ U ___ V ___

___ O ___

- DOUBLE FUN**
- First Puzzle**
- pinto
 - ocean
 - clasp
 - stile
- Second Puzzle**
- realm
 - moist
 - rinse
 - talon
- NINE LETTER FUN**
- Ridership=
 - peevisk, skier,
 - rod; sidetrack=
 - earmark, saint,
 - cad; scrambled=
 - mustard, curve,
 - lob



Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 26, 2023

Scripture Reading: Psalm 130

*A God wise enough to create me and the world I live in
is wise enough to watch out for me. —Philip Yancey*

There's an old story about a farmer, who, when asked to lead prayer in church, would end with a peculiar statement: "And, O Lord, prop us up on our leaning side."

His pastor asked him what he meant by that. He explained: "I've got an old barn, and it's been there a long time. It's been through a lot of storms, and the bugs have eaten at it. I got to looking at it one day, and I noticed it was leaning to one side. So, I thought to myself, this can't be good: it's only a matter of time before it falls.

"So, I got some pine beams, and I propped it up. It still leans, and probably always will. But it's not going to fall down because I supported it on its leaning side.

"I got to thinking about it," he went on. "I thought about the kind of year I've had, and some of the storms I've been through, and some of the people who are bugging me — eating away at my joy. And I got to thinking, I'm still here! I'm still standing after all I've been through. The howling winds: they couldn't topple me. It's because God's grace was propping me up on the leaning side."

Perhaps it was this same idea that prompted Anthony Showalter to pen the lyrics, together with Elisha Hoffman, of the old and well-known hymn, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms." Showalter said (according to an article in Wikipedia) that "he received letters from two of his former pupils saying that their wives had died. When writing letters of consolation, Showalter was inspired by the phrase in the book of Deuteronomy 33:27, 'The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.'"

*What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

Refrain:

*Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: Thank you, O God, for knowing the "joy divine" of being supported by your "everlasting arms," supporting me on my "leaning side." Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: Deuteronomy 1-3
Monday: Deuteronomy 4-6
Tuesday: Deuteronomy 7-9
Wednesday: Deut. 10-12
Thursday: Deut. 13-16
Friday: Deuteronomy 17-19
Saturday: Deut. 20-22

Verse to Remember

“The LORD watches over the way of the righteous.”

—Psalm 1:6



BIBLE CRYPTO-FUN!

Clues: R=I, M=T

MYL CLOQ ZC MYL PZQN RV

MYL HLD RFFRFD ZC GRVNZU.

For solution, see Psalm 111:10 (NIV)

MUSIC MYSTERY

Directions: Fill in the blank boxes below by choosing the correct letter from the two clues provided to spell a famous composer's name. Answer below.

4C 1E 3A 3C 2D 3E 1C 1E 5E

				H				
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1A 3D 4E 1B 5A 5A 4D 5E 3B

A B C D E

1	W	T	E	D	E
2	F	C	R	H	P
3	E	U	A	I	U
4	K	M	B	V	S
5	O	L	J	G	N

Answer: Beethoven

